THE STATE HORNET

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est. 1949 | California State University, Sacramento | November 17, 2004 | Issue 12 | Volume 57 No. 12 | One Copy Free

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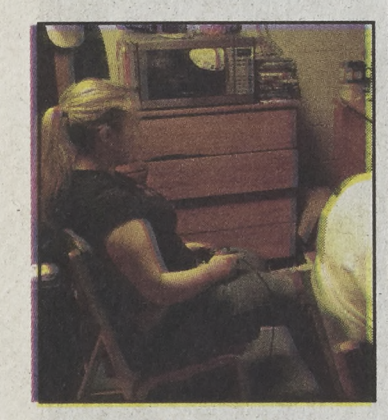


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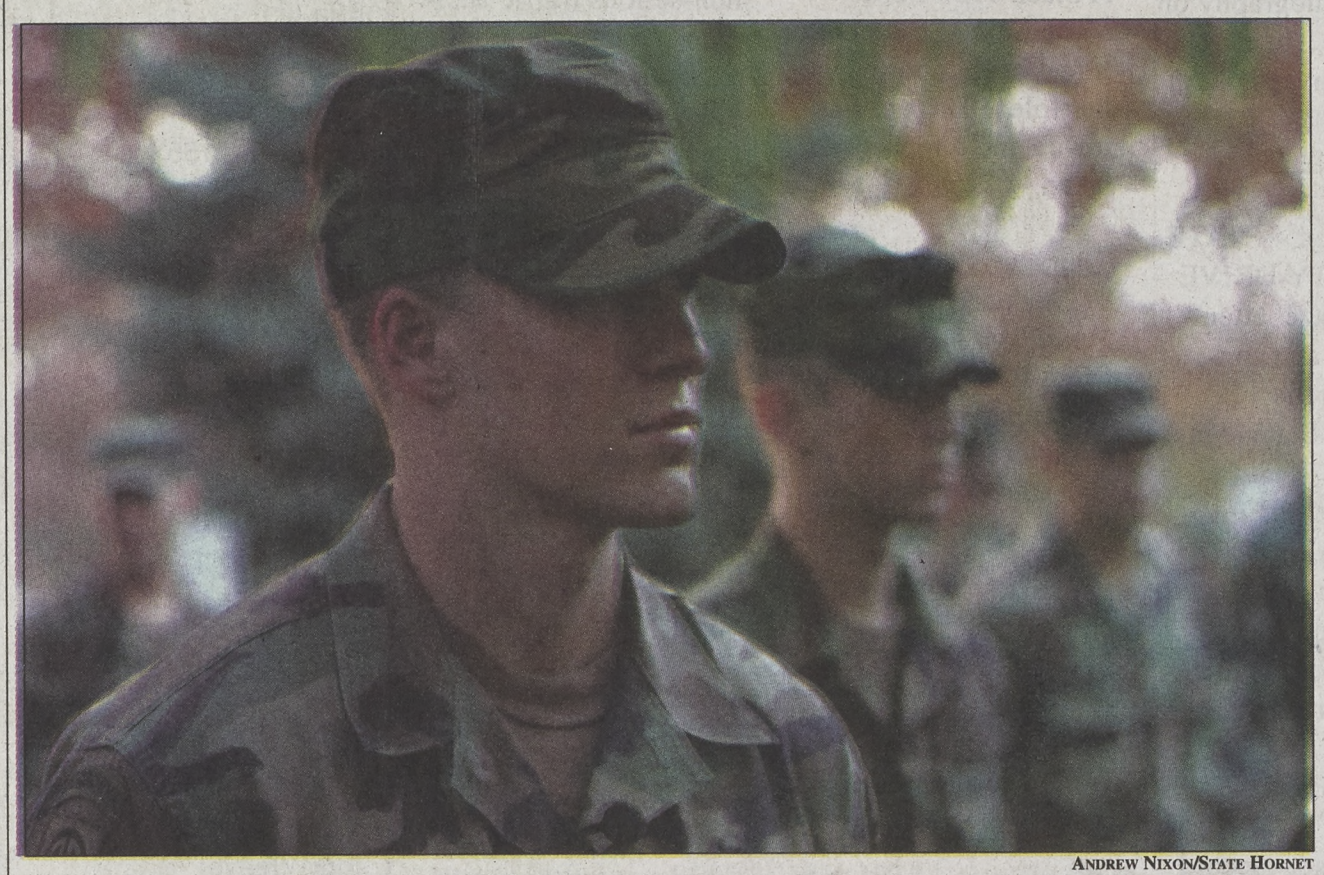
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Sac State student publishes her children's book inspired by daughter's struggles.

HOME AT LAST



ANDREW NIXON/STATE HORNET

Cadet Donald Hamilton stands at attention for a routine change of ranks. The sophomore marketing major says that student life is an enormous change after serving in Iraq near Fallujah for a year.

Soldier returns to family, education after serving year in Iraq

MEGAN LLOYD-JONES
State Hornet

Veterans Day has a whole new meaning to 23-year-old Sacramento State student Donald Hamilton who just returned from service in Iraq, stationed three miles from war torn Fallujah.

Hamilton, now a sophomore marketing major and cadet in the Army Reserve Officer Training Corp, was in Iraq from June 2003 to June 2004 in the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division supplying equipment to helicopters such the Apache and Black Hawk.

Every day Hamilton said he feared for his life and experienced intense sleep deprivation, as bombs would go off at around 3 a.m. almost every day.

"You don't see your enemy until it's too late, until something hits and somebody is hurt so it is really scary in that aspect," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said it was difficult to cope with losing friends in battle especially his mentor Chief Warrant Officer 2 Aaron Weavers.

Hamilton said Weavers had cancer and was there on a voluntary basis and was flying over Fallujah to get treatment in Baghdad when his Medivac helicopter was shot down by terrorists.

SOLDIERS: Page A8



ANDREW NIXON/STATE HORNET

Hamilton talks about his time in Iraq and the importance of Veteran's Day.

Online ballots coming

BLAKE ELLINGTON
State Hornet

A new online voting system will save the university more than $20,000 when students vote in the Associated Students election Dec. 8 and 9.

The expected cost of the new online balloting is $3,000, while last spring's ASI election cost $2,500 more than the original $23,000 projection.

The controversy over the measure for the Recreation, Wellness and Events Center produced record voter turn out, resulting in an eight-hour wait to gain the results of a recount. The wait caused the cost to escalate, as the third party responsible for counting the ballots were paid by the hour.

"The new system is very secure and safe and we will have the outcome of the votes within seconds," ASI President Josh Wood said.

The two ballot measures will be the restructuring of the Appellate Council and the development of a retention center.

Voter security has been the major issue in deciding if Sac State will adopt the new system.

Dave Hill, the director of university computing and communication services, was responsible for evaluating the security of the third party online voting system called The Election Trust.

"We had to decide if it was a feasible option, if we can validate that the voter is a legitimate student and that it doesn't jeopardize privacy," Hill said.

VOTING: Page A4

Special election looming

NICK BIRREN AND REBECCA ADLER
State Hornet

Associated Students is holding a special election featuring online voting Dec. 8 and 9 to redistribute money once earmarked for financial aid.

On the ballot, students will vote whether or not to transfer money currently funding Financial Aid work-study programs to a new student retention center.

"This money is currently being used to fund 158 student jobs on campus," Director of Financial Aid Linda Clemons said. "You're not going to find a replacement for these jobs."

The board voted unanimously in favor of this referendum Oct. 20, allowing it to be on the ballot. However, two weeks later at the next meeting, half of the board voted to revisit the decision.

"I support the need to improve retention rates on campus, and I think the retention center is a very good idea. But after our initial decision, questions began to surface about how transferring this money could affect students, and the overall plan of the how the money will be spent," Director of Education Nicole Croly said.

RETENTION: Page A4

Students spread cheer

Campus organizations do their part for the less fortunate

CARRIE ESPIRITU
State Hornet

The holidays are approaching and campus organizations are spreading holiday cheer to the less fortunate.

University Transportation and Parking Services is assembling boxes for its annual holiday food drive.

"Last year we raised 7,684 pounds of food for the 2003 state employee food drive," Assistant Manager Suzanne Bracamonte said. "That was 1,639 pounds more than the previous year."

The drive is collecting canned and boxed food that will be donated to Foodlink, a California-based organization that delivers more than 70 million pounds of food annually.

Phi Sigma Sigma, a campus sorority, is making sure homeless people stay warm this winter.

Sweaters, coats, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, shoes, blankets and pillows can be donated in the Winter Warmth Drive box, displayed on the first floor of the University Union under the staircase outside the food court.

The Human Resources Management Association is hoping to bring the troops a little something special.

The group is collecting DVDs for the troops.

"The troops have been over there a long time," President Blake Patton said. "I think we need to help them out."

Donation boxes for the DVD drive are located in the Student Activities Office on the second floor of the Union, and in the organizational behavior department in Tahoe Hall.

Athletes can participate in A Race to Feed the Hungry on Thanksgiving Day at 7:30 a.m.

The event, organized by Sacramento Food Bank Services and divided in different age groups, has 5K and 10K courses beginning at Sacramento State and extending towards the downtown area.

There is a pre-registration fee of $25 for this event, and there are a limited number of complimentary entries for elite athletes who have run a certified 10K under 30:30 for men and 35:00 for women in the past year.

There will be awards and prize money for the top three winners in each age group.

Thanksgiving Events

- No Classes Nov. 25 – 28
- Race To Feed The Hungry Nov. 26 7:30 a.m.
- Winter Warmth Drive Located on the 1st floor U.Union.
- Donate DVD's to Troops Located on the 2nd floor U. Union & Organizational Behavior Dept. in Tahoe Hall

Problems abound at Jefferson Commons

CURTIS GRIMA
State Hornet

Jefferson Commons has generated more calls to police than six other area student apartment complexes, according to a three month comparison conducted by the Sacramento Police Department.

As a result, the Police Department and Jefferson Commons will collaborate ideas for stricter eviction and background check policies in a closed meeting Friday afternoon.

A total of 103 calls have been made to the police concerning Jefferson Commons. That total is twice the number of calls made regarding Woodlake Village, an apartment complex that was second highest in the comparison and has twice as many units as Jefferson Commons, Officer Cindy Stinson said in an e-mail.

The Police Department compared the number of disturbance type calls that require the most police hours to resolve. Jefferson Commons had three times as many disturbance calls than the next highest complex, The Villas, Stinson said.

Averaging about 40 police service calls per month, the Police Department is using many of its resources to service Jefferson Commons.

"We are working with the security guards because they don't always have to call PD. They should solve problems and be preventative," Sergeant Sam Somers said. "Officers cannot respond to emergencies elsewhere when we send ten or 12 cars to break up a party. It usually takes officers 45 minutes to resolve some disturbance calls."

Somers said disturbance calls have been made from as far as two blocks away and that loud parties should not impact the community. The Sacramento City Council meeting last week addressed high density housing in the South 65th Street area showing concern for future area complexes.

A representative from JPI, Jefferson Commons' parent company, said that Jefferson Commons and the Police Department will be meeting this week to address problems and work together to find solutions. The Police Department has

COMMONS: Page A5



CHRIS LOTT/STATE HORNET

Every other side of the Jefferson Commons compound has 6-foot security fences except this section along busy 65th Avenue.

POLICE LOG

SACRAMENTO STATE'S CAMPUS POLICE

COMPILED BY
BLAKE ELLINGTON
State Hornet

Sunday, Nov. 7

Disturbance – LIBRARY – A man was in a verbal argument with a woman. They were both talked to by officers and the dispute was taken care of.

Vehicle Impound – COLLEGE TOWN DRIVE – A green Dodge Neon was stopped. The driver had a suspended license. The driver was cited for the license and carrying marijuana. The car was towed.

Vehicle Impound – COLLEGE TOWN DRIVE – A red and white Honda was stopped. The car's license plate did not match with the car. The car was towed.

Monday, Nov. 8

Larceny-Theft – MODOC HALL – Two men were trying to steal telecommunications cable from a construction site. They were arrested and taken to the Sacramento County Jail.

Motor Vehicle Theft – MODOC HALL – A trailer with a large wooden spool on the back was stolen. A report was taken.

Trespass – LIBRARY – An adult male was looking at what appeared to be child pornography on the Internet. The case is still under investigation.

Tuesday, Nov. 9

Larceny-Theft – STATE UNIVERSITY DRIVE – Several bronze letters were stolen and some damaged on the Sacramento State sign.

Disturbance - RESIDENCE HALL PARKING - There was loud music coming from a car. The car was gone when officers arrived.

Vehicle Impound – COLLEGE TOWN DRIVE – A white Honda Accord was stopped. The license plate did not match the car. The car was towed.

Service – LOT 2 – The keys were locked inside of a gray 2001 Toyota. Officers could not assist the owner.

Wednesday, Nov. 10

Service – RIVERSIDE HALL – A call for medical aid was made. The person was taken to the hospital and a report was taken.

Vehicle Recovery – COLLEGE TOWN DRIVE – A black 1990 Ford Mustang was found after it had been reported to be stolen. The car was towed and a report was taken.

Thursday, Nov. 11

Vandalism – PUBLIC SERVICE BUILDING – A bumper sticker was put over the police sign. The sticker was taken off.

Motor Vehicle Theft – PARKING STRUCTURE 2 – A red 2000 Honda Civic was stolen. The car was later found by the Sacramento Police Department.

Service – ART SCULPTURE LAB - Keys were locked inside of a 1994 Honda Accord. Officers helped open the car.

Friday, Nov. 12

Incident – LOT 10 – Someone in a construction area was cutting cables.

Burglary – LOT 8 – A 2001 Honda was broken into and the stereo was stolen.

Vehicle Code – RESIDENCE HALL PARKING – A man was in a non-serious traffic accident. When he got out to exchange information the other person left. A report was taken.

Saturday, Nov. 13

Assault/Battery – RESIDENCE HALL PARKING – A group of about 20 intoxicated people got into a fight. The Sacramento Police Department were called to assist. No one filed any charges.

Disturbance - SWIMMING POOL - A car that had loud music playing was near the pool. The driver was talked to and asked to turn the music down.

Service - AMADOR HALL - There was someone locked out of an office or classroom. They were helped by officers to get in.

Service - LOT 4 - Keys were locked inside of a white and blue Toyota Tacoma. Officers helped get the car open.

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Major fair touted as 'one stop shop'

More than 500 students attend despite rain to research career paths

MEGAN LLOYD-JONES
State Hornet

Organizers of Sacramento State's Major Fair on Wednesday Nov. 10 said it is a "one stop shop" for students to get insight into different majors as well as get general career advice.

Beth Merritt Miller, coordinator of freshman programs for Academic Advising, was involved in organizing the event and said it gives students the opportunity to explore different majors without having to make appointments with individual departments.

"It's a lot easier for them to get a picture of all the different majors on campus and maybe majors they didn't even think about majoring in that they might see at the fair," Merritt Miller said.

The event was held in the University Union Ballroom and was a collaborative effort of Academic Advising and the Career Center.

This will be the Major Fair's fourth year, Merritt Miller said, and they usually see about 500 to 700 students attending.

Organizer Sherene Sasser, career events specialist for the Career Center, said that the rain kept some away this year but they still had about 550 students attend.

Sasser said they target the fair towards freshmen and sophomores who are still undecided about their major. She said that they receive not only positive responses from student evaluations saying they find the event helpful, but also from academic departments who get a lot of interest in their majors.

At the end of each event, Sasser writes a report that looks at how many students came and what the evaluations were. Students had to write down their major when entering the fair as Sasser said she tries to break down the demographics to see how many students from each major attended as well as undeclared students.

Sophomore Alisha Rodrigues said she came to the Major Fair to change her major from business to sociology and that it was really helpful for her.

"I think it's good for students to explore their options; I know I was really confused," Rodrigues said. "They had a lot of information for people with no idea what they wanted to do."

Merritt Miller said business is usually the most popular major at the fair, but this year there was a broad spread of interest in all departments.

Debbie Mullin, coordinator for the criminal justice advising center, said the criminal justice table stayed very busy and that a lot of students had questions about pre-law.

"I think we had a great turn out; we stayed busy the entire time. The pre-law adviser Professor Kubicek had students here constantly," Mullin said. "I think it's great to talk to someone who has gone through the process."

Assistant professor of recreation and leisure Kath Pinch said that the fair was a success for recreation and leisure studies as it gets more students aware that this major is available on campus.

"We're a discovered major on the campus. People walk by and say, you can get a degree in that?" Pinch said. "They stumble on us at places like this. We're not going to increase our registration by hundreds of students, but there are just a few more out there that are aware that we are here."

CSUS attends Battle of the Brains

REBECCA ADLER
State Hornet

Three teams of students from Sacramento State went to Stockton Saturday to participate in one of 32 regional competitions of the International Collegiate Programming Contest, also known as Battle of the Brains, which is hosted by the Association for Computing Machinery.

The Pacific Northwest Region had 80 participating teams from 36 different universities.

Sac State's top team at the competition placed 27th.

The top two placing teams from each regional competition will have the chance to participate in the World Finals in Shanghai, China.

Professor John Clevenger, the coach for the Sac State teams, was not able to attend the competition because he was in Portland, Oregon helping to simultaneously run the same competition at Portland State University.

"I'm here because the contest is run using a software system called PC-Squared, a package developed at Sac State. The judges this year are at the north site so I brought a small group of students and alumni here to assist," Clevenger said.

According to the Sacramento State engineering and computer science Web site PC-Squared means Programming Contest Control and is a system that was developed at Sac State to conduct programming competitions by allowing participants to electronically submit their programs to judges who then run the program to check for accuracy and send the results back to the contestants.

The contestants at the three sites for the Pacific Northwest Regional Contest, BYU Hawaii, University of the Pacific, and Portland State University, are all able to submit their programs, which are electronically time stamped at the time of transmittal, to judges at the main site in Portland.

At the competition students were given six to eight programming problems that they had to solve within five hours. The teams with the best times for solving the problems will be sent on to the finals.

Joe Burks, the vice president of the Sac State chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery, said each team in the competition was penalized 20 points for each time its program was submitted and found incorrect, but that the teams are able to rework the problem after each submission.

The participants from Sac State were chosen by a local contest that was hosted on campus Friday, Oct. 15.

The University of British Columbia took both of the top places at the Pacific Northwest Regional Competition, giving them an opportunity to compete in the World Finals in China.

"Students who participated in last year's event felt that the questions for this year were much more difficult than last year," Burks said.

The student chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery still has other events planned for the spring and Burks said he would like to see Sac State host one of the regional competitions in the next few years, but that he will have to look into the feasibility of that option.

"Having seen UOP host the competition I think we could do a better job, but the question is whether we have enough room to host the event." Burks said. It would require a space with enough computers to carry out the competition as well as space for competitors to take snack breaks, and to work problems without being in front of the computer he said.

Sac State will be hosting an Association for Computing Machinery competition for local high schools in the spring. It is an annual event for the organization, but Burks said it has not had a large number of schools participate in the past.

High schools do not often have courses that teach the programming skills needed to participate in one of these competitions, so Burks said he hopes to find a way to coach the students in the weeks before the competition to raise participation levels.

The State Hornet will not publish on Nov. 24 because of the Thanksgiving holiday

IN BRIEF

SACRAMENTO STATE'S NEWS DIGEST

BRYAN LITTLE
State Hornet

Geology auction

Sacramento State's Geology Club will be holding an auction with a choir concert to celebrate the holidays this Friday from 6 p.m to 9 p.m. The auction will include local wines and field trips with proceeds helping club events in the spring semester. For more information, call 278-6337

Garden path

Sacramento State presents Graduate Student Solo Exhibition in the University Library Gallery Nov. 15 through Dec. 1. The exhibit focuses on Melody Evens and her ceramic sculpture environment. For more information, call 278-6166.

Laying down the law

Sacramento State will hold a law school forum today from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The free workshop will assist those with LSAT preparation, overview of the application process, and a law school admission question and answer forum with representatives from California law schools.

Free holiday bus rides

Sacramento Regional Transit will provide free rides on its holiday bus, which will run on various routes starting Wednesday, Dec. 1, through Sunday, Jan. 9.

The holiday bus is painted each year by RT employees, family members and friends. The design of the bus includes candy canes, poinsettias, gingerbread cookies and gifts.

"We want to share the holiday spirit with the community we serve, and offering free rides on RT's holiday bus is the perfect way to do that," Dr. Beverly Scott, RT General Manager and CEO said in a press release.

For information about the holiday bus routes, call 321-2877 or visit RT's Web site at www.sacrt.com.

Education speaker

Jack O'Connell, California State Superintendent of Public Institution, is scheduled to speak at the next Breakfast Club at 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 7, in the Alumni Center on campus. The event will be hosted by the Alumni Association.

The event is free to Alumni Association members and $15 for non-members.

Journals seized

REDDING (AP) – Agents from the federal Bureau of Reclamation seized a pair of 61-year-old journals from a Redding thrift store earlier this month, concerned that the books were a terrorism risk.

The 1943 construction diaries contained information about the building of the Shasta and Keswick dams, said Jon Austin, a volunteer at the Second Time Around Thrift Store.

Reclamation spokesman Jeff McCracken said that after spotting the items on eBay, department officials decided they'd feel more comfortable if the documents were kept out of public circulation.

"It's part of an effort by our agency that information we feel needs to be protected is protected," he said, adding that the agent offered to pay for the documents.

The two volumes contain original photographs, diagrams, charts and maps.

Store manager Kathy Lockhart voluntarily handed over the project histories to the agents. She said she didn't know who donated the diaries.

McCracken said they most likely belonged to a person who worked on the dams, anyone from a federal employee to a construction worker. – ASSOCIATED PRESS



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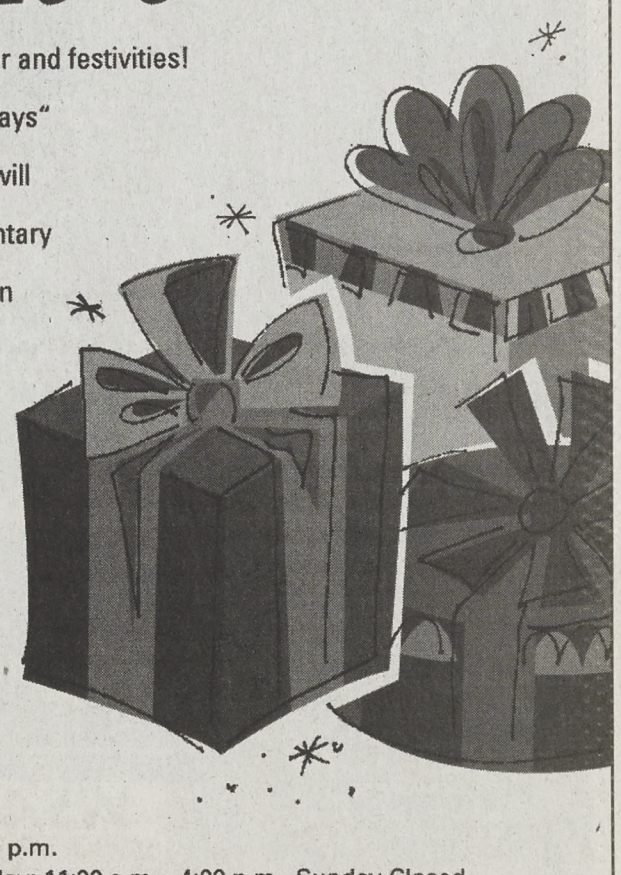
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VOTING: Other schools have made switch to online

Continued from A1

The process will run through a page similar to CasperWeb. After a username and password is typed in, The Election Trust software will validate that the voter is a current student. It will then assign a unique number to that student to not allow anyone to vote twice.

"It appears that we can do it, but we still have to conduct a trial test," Hill said. "We have proven that it is valid and will be secure."

Chico State and San Diego State University both have made the switch to online ballots because of the lower overall cost and the efficiency of the program.

"We need to evaluate if all students' needs and rights are being met, and we need approval from Student Affairs to go through with it," ASI Executive Director Pat Worley said.

The approval of the new program came on Nov. 11, after Vice President of Student Affairs Shirley Uplinger consulted with admissions and records and computing and communication services.

"Students' privacy will be protected, the actual outcome will be legitimate and the system can not be hacked into," said Uplinger. "The two things that need to happen next are a test of the program, and ASI needs to promote online balloting to students who don't know about it."

RETENTION: Some feel fees could be spent more wisely

Continued from A1

Vice President of Finance James Shelby claims that student jobs will not be lost by the creation of the retention center, and the idea that student jobs will be lost is an act of misinformation from people within the university.

"The retention center will be creating student jobs through offering various lab assistant and mentoring positions," Shelby said. "The one thing that we really don't want is to lose student jobs."

Despite ASI's plan for the retention center is still in the "concept phase," Shelby said.

If the referendum passes, the money transferred will not go towards actually constructing a facility. Instead, it will be used to hire a consultant to find out if it is even feasible to build and if it something Sac State students really want.

Shelby also said the money may go toward hiring a program adviser to run the program and develop retention programs.

Student ASI fees are nearly $300,000

In the past, ASI set aside one-third of student ASI fees to Financial Aid. This past March, the CSU Board of Trustees revised that ruling in Executive Order 740, allowing the money to be redistributed by ASI.

The amount translated to roughly $300,000 this past year, of which Financial Aid re-directed $120,000 back to ASI to cover campus work programs.

Aside from the issue of taking money away from Financial Aid, there seems to be a growing concern about the ambiguity over the services the retention center will include.

Five days before the election, ASI will begin circulating pamphlets on campus informing students that the new center will include a 24-hour computer lab, tutoring and mentoring programs, study lounges and student jobs for those looking to get involved.

Lou Camera, director of student activities, said students can already find most of these services on campus.

The nearly completed Academic Information Resource Center behind the library already boasts a 24-hour computer lab, study lounges and more student job offerings when it opens next spring.

If students want tutoring help, services such as the Faculty Student Mentor Program in Lassen Hall or Learning Communities, which helps students form social and academic networks with professors and other students, are two more options, Camera said.

Students also have the option to visit their academic departments to learn about what kind of peer to peer and mentoring services are offered.

"I don't know if starting a new program and erecting a new facility on campus is the best use for that money," Camera said.

Shelby cites software as major benefit

Shelby believes the center may have other advantages.

"What I would like to see later on is a place for students to be able to use LSAT software without having to purchase the software with (Student Educational Leadership) grants," Shelby said.

He said having this software available in computer labs could be used to help students prepare for standardized graduate exams like the LSAT, GRE and the GMAT.

This would be an added benefit of being part of the alumni program, Shelby added.

But the minutes from the board meeting on Oct. 20 show no evidence these services were ever considered.

When the referendum was unanimously passed, Lori Varlotta, student affairs designee, questioned the possibility of combining existing strategies to form a more effective program.

According to the minutes, Shelby said: "…This referendum is just to put it on the ballot, not determine what services will be included. Passage of this referendum would just provide a pot of money to be used for the program to be determined later."

Referendum may lack long-term perspective

Camera said that the retention referendum as been dealt with in a very "myopic" approach, neglecting any long-term perspective.

"I would like to see us discuss this matter further before rushing into making such a quick decision," Camera said.

Executive Order 740 actually offers three options.

The money can be left alone, and continue funding work-study programs in Financial Aid. It can be refunded to the students, equaling about five dollars back to every student on campus, or it can be "shifted to other purposes," which is what may happen.

The minutes from Oct. 20 show no evidence that options one and two were ever presented to the board by the referendum's authors: President Joshua Wood, Vice President of Academic Affairs Luke Wood and Shelby.

"We felt that such a small refund the students would be receiving, it would be more beneficial to use the money elsewhere and for better purposes," Shelby said.

But Camera disagrees, and said everyone should have been aware of all the options from the start.

"If it means refunding the students five dollars in order to avoid a hasty decision, then that's what should be done," Camera said.

Wood promises cash for work programs

Josh Wood made a verbal promise that the $120,000 would still be set aside for campus work programs, while the rest would go towards the new center.

Some board members said that as detailed as the referendum may be, it lacks any qualifying language stating that money must still be set aside for those programs.

"We've used that money to pay for employees of our campus work programs for the past few years," said Sophia Albov, director of natural sciences and mathematics. "I only worry that the language currently in the referendum is too ambiguous for future ASI Board members to recognize."

The issue of student graduation rates and existing retention programs is the hot topic leading into the special online election.

Out of the roughly 30,000 students attending Sacramento State, only 31 percent graduate. Existing retention programs have an 85 percent graduation rate, but only 5 percent of students participate in such programs.

ASI hopes that transferring money it currently provides to Financial Aid to help fund its plan for a new retention center will help increase these statistics.

With an 85 percent graduation rate, Camera believes that existing programs are working, in which case it becomes an issue about why students are not taking advantage of them.

"I would like to know where our current retention system is not working," Camera said.

Camera discussed the possibility that lack of funding and budget cuts may have resulted in students being turned away due to the lack of resources and staff available.

But Camera believes it would be cheaper in the long run to work with improving existing programs than creating new facilities altogether.

"There were a bunch of programs cut last year because of the tight budget," Camera said. "Is it the best decision to spend money on a new program that's already being provided? Perhaps we need to evaluate what programs could really use that money."

If the referendum passes, it does not mean the funds will immediately be transferred. Instead, the issue will be presented to the Student Fee Advisory Committee.

At this stage, the committee examines how the transfer will affect the university's budget, Financial Aid and ASI. Based on its analysis, the committee will present a recommendation to Sac State President Alexander Gonzalez whether or not this transfer of funds is a fiscally wise decision.

Gonzalez retains final say over any transfer

Gonzalez will then make a decision based on the committee's recommendation and the students vote whether or not to transfer the money, which could happen as soon as next fall.

A total of nine members are on the Student Fee Advisory Committee, five of which are ASI executive board members who voted in favor of the referendum

Three of the five are Shelby and the Wood brothers.

ASI has been accepting opposing arguments on the measure with today being the last day to submit arguments.

Patricia Worley, the executive director of ASI, said the reason for such a close deadline is that the board needs to have received all opposing views 21 days before the election so that they can be included in a voter pamphlet to inform students.

Official forum has never been required

Members of the board, including Croly, feel that students did not have enough time to learn about the issues involved, and that the lack of board meetings in the weeks leading up to the election does not give students the opportunity to voice their opinions.

"As far as I know there is no rule in the bylaws that calls for an open forum (to voice opposition)," Worley said. "But there has always been a call for opposition to any measure."

"The ASI money that goes to financial aid will be gone. All of it will go into the retention center. The money is for work-study and will be gone unless another organization is able to somehow come up with the money," Vice President of Student Affairs Shirley Uplinger said.

Clemons believes students need to be fully informed of the consequences and make the decision based on which one will help more students.

"We have to ask ourselves: Will this new center help more than 158 students, and do we have enough information to answer that question?" Clemons said.

MAKING A COMEBACK



JOLANA HOWARD/STATE HORNET

Feral chickens like this one spotted outside the University Union on Nov. 10 are making a slow but steady comeback on campus. The birds, considered by some the defacto Sacramento State mascots, were nearly completely removed from campus when an unofficial mandate that encouraged faculty and staff to take the fowl home was circulated.

COMMONS: Tenants should expect stricter eviction policy to be enacted

Continued from A1

identified three points that they will be discussing with Jefferson Commons.

The representative said the meeting will cover 24-hour on-site management staff, in-depth background checks for tenants and a stricter eviction policy.

The eviction policy, as stated on the lease, has three stages. The first stage is a written document that warns the tenant of the violation. The second stage is a fine for the tenant and the third is eviction. These stages of the eviction process are demonstrated directly to tenants because all tenants signed individual leases.

Although evictions affect only the lease of the violator, the Police Department believes that evictions will impact the entire complex.

"Communication between Jefferson Commons and security should move swiftly through the eviction process. If management responds quickly, so not to encourage others, tenants will know what will and will not be tolerated," Somers said.

Considering only calls made within the Jefferson Commons premises, noise disturbance calls for service are much lower than calls from outside the premises.

Officer Michelle Lazark said that since Sept. 7, 78 calls to the Police Department have been from Jefferson Commons. Ten of the 78 calls were placed by either tenants or security regarding complaints of noise disturbances.

Lazark also said false alarms from the Jefferson Commons office and computer lab is responsible for 13 calls for police service and 12 are related to burglary, petty theft and grand theft.

Chawki Zaguia, American River College student and tenant at Jefferson Commons, is concerned for security at Jefferson Commons.

Zaguia lives in one of three buildings that includes an opening that is not secured by a fence. Buildings 12 and 13, on 65th Street, and Building 14, on 4th Avenue, all have accessible entrances for any person to enter and exit.

Each building has two entrances that are visible by motorists and pedestrians from the sidewalk. A walkway from 4th Avenue leads to an opening in Building 14 while the other openings are surrounded by grass.

A JPI representative recognizes that the complex is not secured by a fence in some areas but is unsure why or who demonstrated concern for enclosing the premises. The representative acknowledged that if enclosing the property could potentially be a solution, the construction of a fence would be considered.

Walter Brown, owner of the security company at Jefferson Commons, says that in order to prevent unwanted guests from entering the property, security will be improving its efforts by hiring more staff and patrolling areas of the complex that are not enclosed.

With the development of Jefferson Lofts, located on Redding Avenue behind Jefferson Commons, the JPI representative says that Jefferson Commons will be used as a model for future JPI communities. If any changes will be made in policies or security JPI says that the tenants will be first to know.

Concerns voiced over president's Destination 2010

SARAH POLLO
State Hornet

Students, staff and faculty voiced their concerns and suggestions on Sacramento State's plans for the future as President Alexander Gonzalez spoke at the first of three scheduled town hall meetings .

The discussion, which was held at noon on Wednesday in the University Union Hinde Auditorium, examined the academic impact of Gonzalez's plan Destination 2010 over the next five years.

"Destination 2010 will change this campus," Gonzalez said.

The president said he looked forward to hearing what other people thought about his vision of academic excellence, one part of the upgrades and developments planned for the university to make it a campus of choice for students, faculty, staff and the community by 2010.

"Today is about meeting the needs of students and faculty," Gonzalez said.

Planners for the Destination 2010 project have started holding discussion forums with the different college departments and offices, focusing on faculty, staff and student planning for each strategy.

Mike Lee, an assistant planner for the project, said that by the end of the semester, he would bring all of the 80 plans together and move forward with the development, building it into the regular college budget process.

"It won't be costly," Lee said.

Cost wasn't the only concern, as many faculty and students stood up to tell Gonzalez they were worried about program availability and technology problems in classrooms.

William Vizzard, professor and chairman for the criminal justice department, said the university's programs were not all excellent.

"We shouldn't assume that they all are," Vizzard said.

He said Sac State needs better academic support, because students don't leave the university with enough knowledge to make it in the career that they have chosen.

Vizzard said he thought the university needed to hold up better standards if it was to have academic excellence.

Assistant professor of biological sciences Ron Coleman said Sac State's current policies allow for too many chances, such as making it too easy for students to drop classes.



Gonzalez

"We need to portray to students that this is their chance and to make the best of it," Coleman said.

One faculty member said he was concerned about athletics taking away from academics and asked Gonzalez how much the university planned to spend on football.

Gonzalez said he felt athletics would help the university get out into the community and get noticed for what it does.

"Athletics brings support to our campus," Gonzalez said.

He said it would help academics because it attracts private donors like the Spanos family who donated $10 million dollars to the Recreation, Wellness and Events Center.

"Academics will always be what we do," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez plans to hold two more open discussions between staff, students and faculty over developing community support and creating a better environment.

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OPINION

CAMPUS QUOTES

COMPILED BY: MICHELLE RAMELLA
PHOTOS: MICHELLE RAMELLA/STATE HORNET

What is the funniest thing that has happened to you at Thanksgiving?

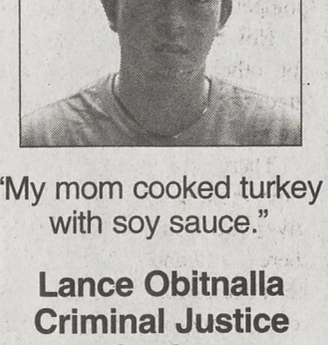


"One year our oven with the turkey in there caught on fire and we had to have the fire department come."

Alicia Greco
Communications
Senior

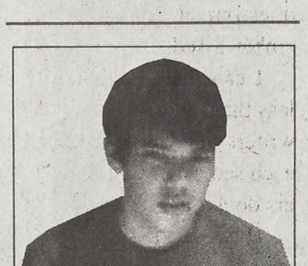
"My grandmother laughed so hard she shot coffee out of her nose."

Jamie Manzella
Psychology
Junior



"My mom cooked turkey with soy sauce."

Lance Obitnalla
Criminal Justice
Senior



"I slipped and fell when caring some stuff to the table."

Steven Tien
Electrical Enginering
Freshman

EDITORIAL

No and No

On Dec. 8 and 9, Sacramento State students will have a chance to vote on two specific referendums in an Associated Students special election.

The State Hornet urges you to vote NO on both.

The first is the creation of a retention center. ASI wishes to take back one-third of the fee that each student pays for its services and put it towards the creation of a retention center. This money, roughly $300,000, is currently directed to funding work-study programs on campus and is responsible for 158 student jobs at Sac State.

The retention center will do nothing but eat-up financial aid money for programs that already exist on campus like mentoring, tutoring, study lounges and student jobs. These services are already offered on campus or will be in the near future, considering the Academic Information Resource Center behind the library is almost complete.

This legislation was introduced to the ASI Board of Directors by authors President Josh Wood, Vice President of Academic Affairs Luke Wood and Vice President of Finance James Shelby at an "emergency meeting" on Oct. 20 and was unanimously approved. However, many of the directors are now concerned about the quick decision; so is The State Hornet.

This retention center is a waste of time and money. Sac State has retention programs in place currently to assist students in graduating. The issue is not building a new facility and creating a new program. More students need to take advantage of these programs to increase the retention rate on campus from 85 percent to 100 percent.

Coincidentally there are no board meetings until the elections take place, which does not allow the board to formally discuss the issues at hand and only allows students to submit opposing arguments to ASI in an online form.

Another piece of legislation set forth in the Oct. 20 "emergency meeting" involves the control of the existing Appellate Council.

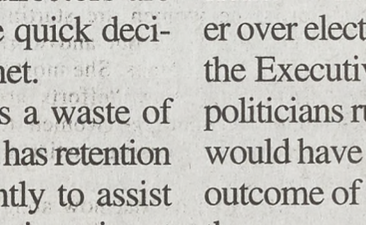
The Appellate Council is an oversight committee that can overturn decisions made by the ASI Board of Directors and the Election Complaint Committee. Currently, Shirley Uplinger, vice president of student affairs, appoints the council members.

If this legislation passes, the Board of Directors will appoint the council members allowing them to choose people that will benefit them in decision-making. If the election in the spring plays out like last time – with complaint hearings lasting all summer and well into the fall semester – the Appellate Council would no longer be objective towards all parties. Especially since President Josh Wood has the power to appoint three students to the council.

Angel Barajas claims that ASI doesn't want to get rid of the Appellate Council, but it wants to "take away its power over Election Committee decisions." Who would then have the power over election complaints? Wood and the Executive Board? If these student politicians run again in the spring, they would have a significant impact on the outcome of complaints logged against them.

Wood said in the Nov. 10 issue of The State Hornet, "we trust ourselves to govern ourselves" and that "the last election had little effect on the creation of this piece of legislation." Really Josh? Really?

Faculty speak their mind, not positive for students



Jennifer Turner

Several opportunities are here for students to become informed of the policy decisions and concerns within the faculty, but how many of us actually take the time to attend the events and listen?

For the first time in the three semesters I have been coming to Sacramento State, I made the decision to sit in on my first Town Hall meeting. OK, so it wasn't necessarily because I was interested, but rather a chance to gain extra credit for my journalism class.

However, after sitting in and listening to some of the faculty members' suggestions, I was outraged by what their vision of the future should look like.

Being one of many students who can maintain a full-time or part-time job, as well as a full-time class schedule I was stunned when one faculty member stood up and said that the standards for education are set too low.

Doesn't sound too bad yet, right? She then proceeded to say that students who are working 40 hours a week should also be required to put in 40 hours of class time a week if they choose to maintain a full-time schedule – basically stating that one credit should be worth three hours.

Do you know how unreasonable this sounds? An 80-hour workweek is ridiculous and unimaginable to even faculty members themselves. Sometimes I wonder if our professors forgot what it was like to be a student and work at the same time.

I think it is a fair assessment to say that we are trying as hard as we can to balance the needs and expectations of work, life and school, and packing on another 25-30 hours of class time a week is absurd.

As professors, I would think they would support the decision of students to advance their careers while also advancing their education, but I guess in the eyes of some faculty members, a 55-hour workweek just isn't enough.

Setting aside my frustrations for a moment, I will support that three hours a week isn't quite enough time to get the full grasp of the material, but I don't think it has to do with the amount of time spent in the classroom.

One suggestion made by another faculty member was to decrease the size of the classroom in order to ensure the students get the needed attention to understand the material. This, by the way, was only one of few comments that actually benefited the students throughout the entire meeting.

Continuing on with more questions and answers from faculty, I was again blown away by a statement made by a professor of the Biological Sciences Department. This professor, in short, declared that there are two types of students: those who are advanced and those who are struggling.

I am aware that there are some who can make college work for them and some who seem to have a harder time getting by. But when this faculty member said that we can't lower our standards to meet the needs of the strugglers, it made me wonder why this person was a teacher.

In my opinion, a teacher is there to help advance and progress the intelligence and work ethics of students, not condemn them for being less intelligent than their peers at the top of the class.

A second comment only added to my irritation. Struggling students should only be given one second chance and should be told that they need to make the best of it. Well, that's just great. When a student is on a downward spiral in school, why not kick them a couple of times to make them try harder.

I agree that there is a limit as to how many chances a student gets, but my concern is that should this type of procedure be implemented, it will affect the students who truly are trying their hardest to succeed, not the ones who admit to giving up.

My advice to all students is to begin paying a little more attention to events such as this because there are a lot of decisions and suggestions being thrown around, that if implemented, will truly affect us in a negative way.



Letters to the editor

Send letters to

forum@statehornet.com

PRIMAS TAKES OVER MARKETING

I'd like to thank Steve Nixon for the article regarding my hiring. Mostly, for putting the okina in the word "Hawai'i."

Mahalo!

Adam Primas
Marketing Director, CSUS

CAMPAIGNING IS A WIN, LOSE, WIN, PROPOSITION

Jennifer, I find your comment that you somehow failed in your civic duty because your candidate or party did not win somewhat immature. Volunteering to be part of our political process is admirable. You should feel a great deal of personnel honor and pride for supporting our Republic.

If your only goal is to empower a specific party or point of view then yes you have failed. You have failed to understand the importance in the process and you've allowed a personnel feeling to sway your judgment. Instead of focusing on the disappointment you feel because your candidate did not win, maybe we can focus on the divide this Nation is experiencing, why it is so malicious, and how to cure this disease. As long as we see ourselves as Americans first and then our political leanings we have a chance.

Anyway, I credit you with a great deal of honor and respect for your participation and believe you are one of the few who has succeeded. You help to make this a great Country through your volunteer work and your public service, working for California. You have not failed at all!

Mark Larson
Chef, federal employee, assistant building manager

SUGGESTIONS

I would like to suggest that you have an article, or survey students regarding the poor services they receive from various departments around the school.

I personally have had problems with Financial Aid, Admissions & Records and others within the last two semesters alone.

I am very fed up, and I am sure there are plenty of other students who are, too. You are very good at informing us when a disservice has been rendered, and I think that is what the administration has been doing to the students for a very long time.

Michelle Davis

TELEPHONE HOLD MESSAGES

To the Editor:

In the past if an individual was placed on telephone hold at Sacramento State, the caller would hear pleasant classical music, but Sac State President Alexander Gonzalez decided that subjecting a caller to repetitive, dreadful audiomercials would be more appropriate.

This change, reflecting the increasing corporate commercialization of the state university system, does little to upgrade the image of the University or enhance the experience for a caller. Is it possible that Sac State might be renamed SAC-MART?

R. Humphrey

Sickness can be sexy

ELIZABETH MARTIN
Daily Evergreen (Washington State U.)

(U-WIRE) PULLMAN, Wash. – Late night runs to the local convenience store for cough drops, extra soft tissues and knock-me-out-so-I-can-sleep-this-sickness-off-medicine is not needed.

Sickness is sexy.

I think most Americans aged 15 to 24 can remember the "Friends" episode where Phoebe gets sick.

If not, a little refresher is in order. After catching a cold Phoebe realized the sexy voice she also caught. Her confidence was higher, her music was better and she was just plain sexy.

Many of us have recently caught a little bug. This shouldn't be a surprise after all the average American suffers two to six colds a year, according to WebMD.com.

As a result of my ailment, my voice has dropped, I have been talking a little slower, a little quieter and, dare I say, a little sexier.

Like Phoebe, I am thankful to have gotten sick. I can now interview for my long time dream of being a sex phone operator.

There are many more advantages to my sickness. For one, my grades will improve because I will be bed-ridden and besides catching up on past episodes of VH1's "Best Week Ever," I will be studying.

A second, highly important advantage is people care for you.

I'm sure I can get my roommate to take out my trash piled high with snotty tissue. Or have her wash out some of my dishes, because, frankly, I am just too weak to move.

A third highlight is getting some much-needed rest and relaxation.

College is far too stressful, and I'm afraid this was the original cause of my sickness.

To bring this article full circle, I want to remind you that sickness is sexy and if you have not recently been sick, please try and get sick.

I have thought of some helpful tips to get you started on the sexier you.

Find someone coughing, watch them, not in the creepy way where they know you are watching, but in the sly way – like a stalker does.

If they discard their used tissue, grab it and lick it a little bit.

Don't get me wrong, I don't want to engulf the tissue, just open it up to get the good stuff. Then slyly massage it on your tongue for a bit.

Of course if this person who threw the tissue away notices, they may give you a look of disgust. In this situation, calmly explain that sickness is sexy. I'm sure they will see this as a compliment.

Everyone loves a compliment and they might offer to help.

You can suggest they cough directly into your throat or you can take a sip from their drink.

Whatever suits your fancy – just remember sickness is sexy. There is definitely new trend circulating: Sickness is the new pink.



Andy Opsahl

Anti-bullying laws: just around the next corner?

Anti-bullying disciplinary policies in public schools will do nothing to help kids who get bullied. The California Department of Education has been in the process of drafting such polices since funding for them was signed into law by Gov. Gray Davis in 2003.

Legislation for similar laws is currently being considered in the United States House of Representatives.

I got teased as a child in my pre-high school years and I can assure you that tougher consequences for bullies will be useless to similar kids today. In school, most teasing happened under adults' radar screen.

For any anti-bullying laws to be executed, I would have had to report the teasing to adults, which would have been social suicide. I knew there were repercussions for bullies, but to use them would have hastened my real problem: having no friends and projecting vulnerability.

Becoming a kid who was marked off limits for teasing by the school was hardly going to give me a better social life. I had to learn to stand up for myself and learn how to make friends.

Bullies don't like to tease kids who have backup, and picking on those who stand up for themselves is too much of a hassle. I remember being approached by a guy who had loved to tease me in the past and seemed to be in the mood again at the beginning of my freshman year in high school.

"Hi Andrew, hi," he kept slowly repeating with an evil smile.

But instead of cowering, I acted oblivious to his tone and responded as if he was genuinely trying to say hello.

"Hey, how was your summer?" I asked.

He seemed befuddled but kept at it.

"Andrew ... hi," he said again.

"Hi, good to see you too," I said in a sarcastically repetitive tone. "What's up?"

Then he just walked away deflated. I ended up having a great four years in high school and was friends with many of the kids who had teased me in the past.

If anyone working for California Department of Education reads The State Hornet, take advice from a formerly bullied columnist: There are two kinds of bullying – violent and verbal.

Obviously, violent bullies need to be aggressively punished for school safety reasons. But get creative when dealing with verbal bullying. Train school counselors to coach bullied students in taking a proactive approach to their situations. They'll be learning how to fight their own battles, a vital skill in life.

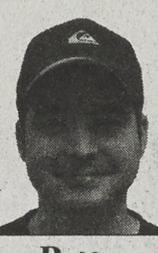
I made a lot of friends in high school because of my parents forcing me to get involved in extracurricular activities. Such activities are the easiest way for a shy kid to interact with potential friends.

The California Department of Education should urge counselors to aid bullied students in finding extracurricular activities that suit their interests. These can be directly in the schools or out in the community.

Bottom line: Teachers and administrators will never see most of the bullying in schools and most of the bullied students will never report it to them. Give students the tools to solve the problem on their own. Then get out of their way.

Contact Andy Opsahl at forum@statehornet.com

Abstinence is the answer to abortion



Joe Patterson

Many times when people speak about abortion, they get into a debate about politics. The reality of the matter is that when a couple makes a decision on reproduction, politics hardly play a role in the decision.

These days, individuals and couples are being educated on how to prevent a pregnancy through birth control and if that is not successful, how to end the pregnancy.

Society should focus more on encouraging people to wait and have sex, as well as giving alternatives to abortion should a couple have an unexpected pregnancy.

Everyone disagrees on when a fetus becomes a child. But the key fact is that every fetus has the ability to become a child. The most important thing to remember, in order to avoid any problem with this issue, is if a person cannot care for a child or cannot handle the emotion of an unwanted pregnancy, he or she should not be having sex.

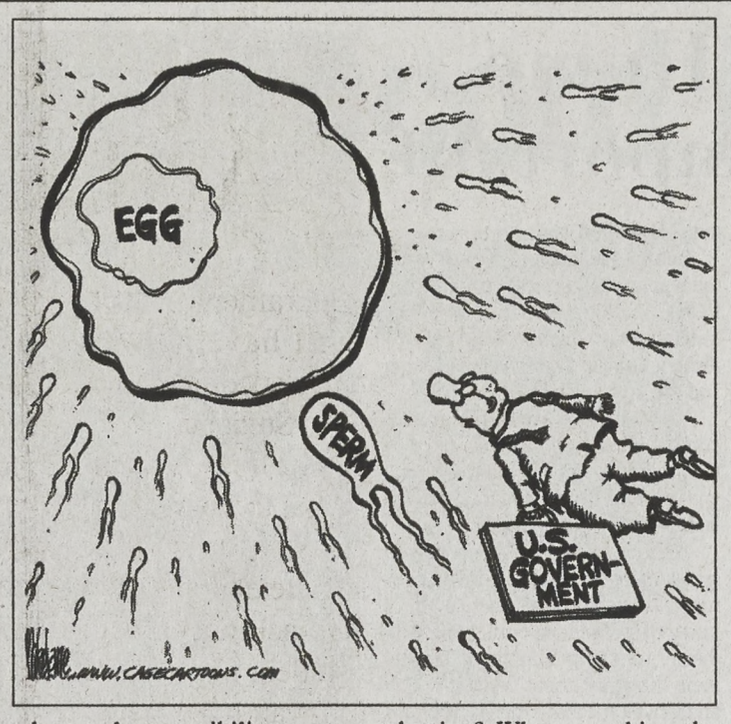
Please keep in mind that this does not speak to people who are raped.

I remember my first sex education class in fifth grade. We talked about strong feelings people often have towards each other, birth control and abortion. In sixth grade we were shown what a condom is and how it can help us prevent pregnancy.

Like many students, I had four years of sex education – from fifth grade through eighth grade. Other than birth control, the instructors never briefed us on responsible sexual behaviors, the consequences of an unwanted pregnancy or adoption. I was a 12-year-old that did not receive an education on options other than abortion as a solution to unwanted pregnancies, but I knew how to use condoms and lubricant.

What the hell is wrong with our society? Besides the fact that 12-year-olds should not be learning how to lube up, I understand that abortion is an important "right" to many people, specifically women, but our education system should at least provide adequate information for people to know all of their options, including adoption.

Many feminist groups are sending the wrong message to their constituents. Feminists often argue that when a woman gets pregnant, the man must take equal responsibility.



I completely agree with this. However, groups such as the National Organization for Women forget about the equality issue when it comes to "reproductive rights."

Kim Gandy, president of the organization said, "Women and their doctors must be free from the interference and agendas of politicians."

This is all true, but what about the male? All of a sudden, the influence of the male is not important. By the way, Gandy was talking about Partial Birth Abortion, which is usually a late-term procedure that punctures a hole in the head of the fetus and extracts the brain.

Also, what is the role with the National Organization for Women when talking about adoption? When searching the Web site, the only information it had on adoption was pertaining to the right of homosexuals to be able to adopt children. Its agenda is obvious – the necessity for women to have knowledge about abortion is far more important than the opportunity to put your child up for adoption.

Society needs to make an effort to encourage responsible behavior. We should not leave abstinence out of the education we receive. We should not leave out the truths of gory abortion procedures. Most importantly, we should not leave morality out of our lives. Society is quickly chipping away at it.

Contact Joe Patterson at forum@statehornet.com

Women helping women in law enforcement



Michelle Ramella

Women in the Untied States today have far more freedom in the law enforcement field than they once did. Today women are being hired as police officers, FBI agents, lawyers and many other positions in different departments to help our country and their communities.

I attended a lecture in my criminal justice class by Prit Paul Kaur, a Post-Doctoral Scholar and woman from India. She conducted a study about the emerging role of women in the law enforcement field in India.

Kaur started her speech by first explaining how women in India were treated poorly by men and how they weren't thought of very highly in the social aspect of the country.

Kaur also shared that by being a woman in India meant that you couldn't go outside the house alone, that you had to work inside the house and how most of the women are married at a very early age and are treated sometimes violently by the men in the country.

I knew that women were treated differently in India than in the U.S. from other classes that I've taken, but I was shocked at how bad it really was. It surprised me that they would kill their babies if they found out early that the unborn baby would be a girl.

I personally couldn't imagine starving my child or harming it in any way just because of its gender. The fact that women couldn't marry out of their social class and how most of their marriages are arranged for them seemed unfair to me.

They couldn't marry for love, but were forced to marry someone their parents chose for them. I don't believe I could live in a country that didn't give their women the freedom to marry whomever they wanted or that treated their women so low.

Kaur continued to tell us that now some women are starting to be able to go out and work outside their homes. She mostly talked about how "efforts are made to encourage women to join police to ensure justice to other women."

Kaur told us that now about 2 percent of the entire police force is made up of women. Most of these women are energetic, enthusiastic, educated and want to help people or make themselves feel strong.

I was amazed at these numbers and found it interesting that women in another country who are usually not thought very highly of are making this effort to do something to help other women who still might be scared to go to the police believing that the police won't help them.

I think that it is very incredible how these women are making that effort to change how women are looked at in their country while at the same time making themselves stronger by working as police officers.

Kaur also added that she thought it would help if the police was made up of half females and half males so the women wouldn't be scared to ask for help or to report some kind of abuse that happened to them.

Kaur told us how there was one woman who waited almost a month before reporting something that happened to her because she was scared that she would be looked down upon in her society.

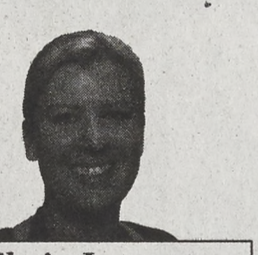
Women shouldn't have to live scared in their own country. Women should be able to feel free to go to the police if they need to and not be afraid that they will be beaten or looked down upon. Women are just as important as men and women should be treated like it, not scared of it.

Contact Michelle Ramella at forum@statehornet.com

Are you interested in voicing your opinion in The State Hornet? Send your guest commentary to forum@statehornet.com or drop-off your column at The State Hornet office located on the second floor of the University Union. Questions or comments? Call (916) 278-7300.

Leaving Sacramento?

Weighing the options before deciding to move



Chris Jansen

Originally I was supposed to be writing about why I can't wait to get out of Sacramento, and how I am eagerly looking forward to graduating and leaving this town.

Leaving Sacramento is something I look forward to because I am more of a Bay Area girl. I miss being within 30 minutes from Santa Cruz and 45 minutes from San Francisco.

I miss being surrounded by foothills, and feeling the cool fog rolling over the hills into Silicon Valley at the end of every day. Driving through these hills creates the impression that your getting away from the congestion and city areas; taking only a few minutes to get off the beaten path.

I've realized it's not that I don't enjoy Sacramento; I'm just more at ease in the Bay.

At this point I'm down to my last year in school. My fingers are crossed that my advisers and I have not forgotten anything that will extend my stay here. As much as Sacramento has embraced me for the last year and as eager as I am to go back to what I consider my home, an odd thought has struck me: "what next?"

I have taken the appropriate path for my major. I have studied and will continue for the next year. I have entertained internships and on-the-job training on campus. Still I think as we all grow closer to that graduation date we start to wonder if we will be able to pay off all of our college loans with the weight of our degree.

It's a scary thing when you hear new graduates say that it took them six to eight months to find a job after graduation. I'm pretty sure they don't offer student loans for the year after graduation.

My job is on campus so I will not be able to keep my current employment after graduation. And to even ask about a savings account or parental support is laughable – both are just not there.

All of these unknowns have kept me up at night, well only one night but still I'm a woman who likes her sleep. However, I realized that night that I can't just wait for my fate to unravel.

I am not one to always listen to my parents, but suddenly the words I loathed for so long have begun to ring true. If we don't want to be stuck eating Top Ramen and canned chili for the rest of our lives we must be proactive.

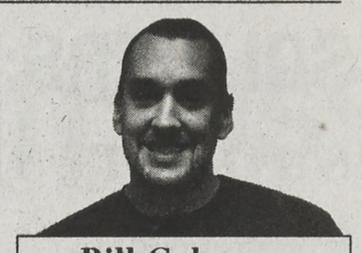
In order to make sure we don't get stuck in a "what to do now?" rut, we have to look to our future as if it starts tomorrow. Career fairs, checking online for career opportunities, visiting the Co-Operative Education Office and the Career Center are all ways we can begin to take control of our future.

Another way to ensure that we are not left with nothing at the end of this journey is to begin making contacts and networking out. People want to hire these proactive types. Showing interest a year in advance shows you're serious.

I realize that going back to the Bay may not be a reality. The cost of living is atrocious compared to Sacramento.The people in Sacramento have given me chances and opened doors I never knew existed.

Sacramento, with your small town quaintness we may just be in this for the long haul and I think I will be OK with where ever opportunity knocks.

Contact Chris Jansen at forum@statehornet.com



Bill Coleman

Attendance and grading policies set students up for failure

Grade point average is a very important aspect of your college career. Many grants and loans are based on your GPA and it also serves as a symbol of ability, not to mention status.

Aside from what content is taught in the classroom, the most important duty teachers have is grading their students. I think the grading styles of some instructors need improvement.

The different methods college instructors use to grade students is almost as diverse as the student population. I have one class where there are daily and weekly assignments due. Then I have another class where there are two tests and a paper for the entire semester.

I hear about classes that grade strictly by attendance, with some lowering a full grade for two absences. Attendance is usually a standard 5 to 10 percent of your final grade in classes, but then roll is never taken. Is it fair to go from having an A at 90 percent to a B with 85 percent because you may have missed four or five classes?

Then in other classes you can miss the entire semester as long as you pass the final. Is it fair that you come to class every day but the teacher is so bad, the book is so big and your time is so short that the best you can muster is a C?

In one of my classes, I recently had a mid-term. I only missed one class in two months, read the materials and took notes. Our instructor did not give us any study guide for the test, and the test questions were not consistent with the volumes of lecture information given to us.

I had no idea of what was expected, but could have done better if I did know. I cannot take the test over again so I am stuck with an average grade.

Now, I need to get 100 percent on the final and research paper to get 90 percent in the class. If I get 90 percent on both, then I drop to 80 percent. Yes, I am bitter and disappointed, but in myself, as well. Most students love when teachers grade on a curve, but I think that shows a failure of instruction.

The practice of students grading papers for teachers concerns me, too. I realize these graduate students have sufficient capability to determine a grade or level of competency for assigned work.

However, I do not pay money for other students to give me grades that will forever go on my record.

There is a grading rubric for paper assignments the university gives the instructors to use, but there is still analysis that needs to be done. Most instructors will review any questions regarding grades, but some students will not question it because they feel embarrassed.

I can imagine there are some less than sensational students and writers that teachers must endure each semester. I think most teachers do a tough job very well.

However, there must be some way to improve the system for grading students that a few teachers currently use. Without a clear understanding of expectations when it comes to test time, students will continue to beg for extra credit while hoping to get a good GPA.

Contact Bill Coleman at forum@statehornet.com

SOLDIERS: Home support important

Continued from A1

"He took me under his wing and taught me how to lead soldiers," Hamilton said. "It was hard to cope with on a personal and professional level; it made those last three months feel like a year long."

Hamilton was given two weeks notice before being deployed and had just married his wife in May 2003 who was three months pregnant at the time. Hamilton said it was really hard not seeing the birth of his son.

Hamilton said that he has so much more respect for his wife after the experience, as she had to do everything on her own like moving, having a baby and paying bills.

"She really kicked butt while I was gone," Hamilton said. "She really grabbed the reigns from me and ran with it."

Support from civilians at home was what Hamilton said got him through. He said total strangers would write him letters thanking him for his efforts and he would develop pen pals. Hamilton said this helped him because he was able let out his feelings and share experiences without scaring his family.

While Christmas and Thanksgiving are fun, Hamilton said, Veterans Day means a lot to him personally after seeing friends lose their lives in battle to liberate others.

"Freedom is something that is fought for, something that is earned and if I can provide it for somebody, I will, and Veterans Day is all about that," Hamilton said.

During the week of Nov. 8 to 12 the Veterans Affairs Office and Army ROTC held an exhibit to honor Veterans Day which consisted of two displays, one in the University Union and one in Lassen Hall.

The displays were filled with combat memorabilia such as uniforms, equipment and photos, poetry and profiles from student veterans and dependents of veterans.

"We have over 400 students who are veterans, dependents of veterans, reservists or disabled veterans that I know of so I sent an e-mail out to all those students inviting them to share their thoughts about Veterans Day and what it means to them," Veterans Affairs coordinator Heather McGowan said.

McGowan said it is a way to recognize not only veterans from the past but current students who are veterans.

"I think people often think of veterans as World War II or Vietnam veterans, not necessarily the students that might be sitting next to them in class or students who are reservists, and those who are currently serving in operation Iraqi Freedom who don't know how long they are going to be staying and don't know how long to put off their graduation," McGowan said.

Army ROTC spokesman Cadet Mike Holbrook also was responsible for putting together the display. Holbrook said he had an overwhelming response from those wanting to contribute to the display.

"We could have put an amazing amount of equipment in there but the school could only give us so much room," Holbrook said.

Holbrook said this display was a way for veterans to express their pride in serving their country, as they are generally very modest.

"If you talk to any veteran … they are very proud of what they do but they are unsung heroes, they don't like to pat each other on the back or talk about it," Holbrook said.

Cadet Kevin Braafladt contributed the two uniforms displayed in the exhibit, one from World War I and one from World War II, that were worn by his grandfather and great grandfather.

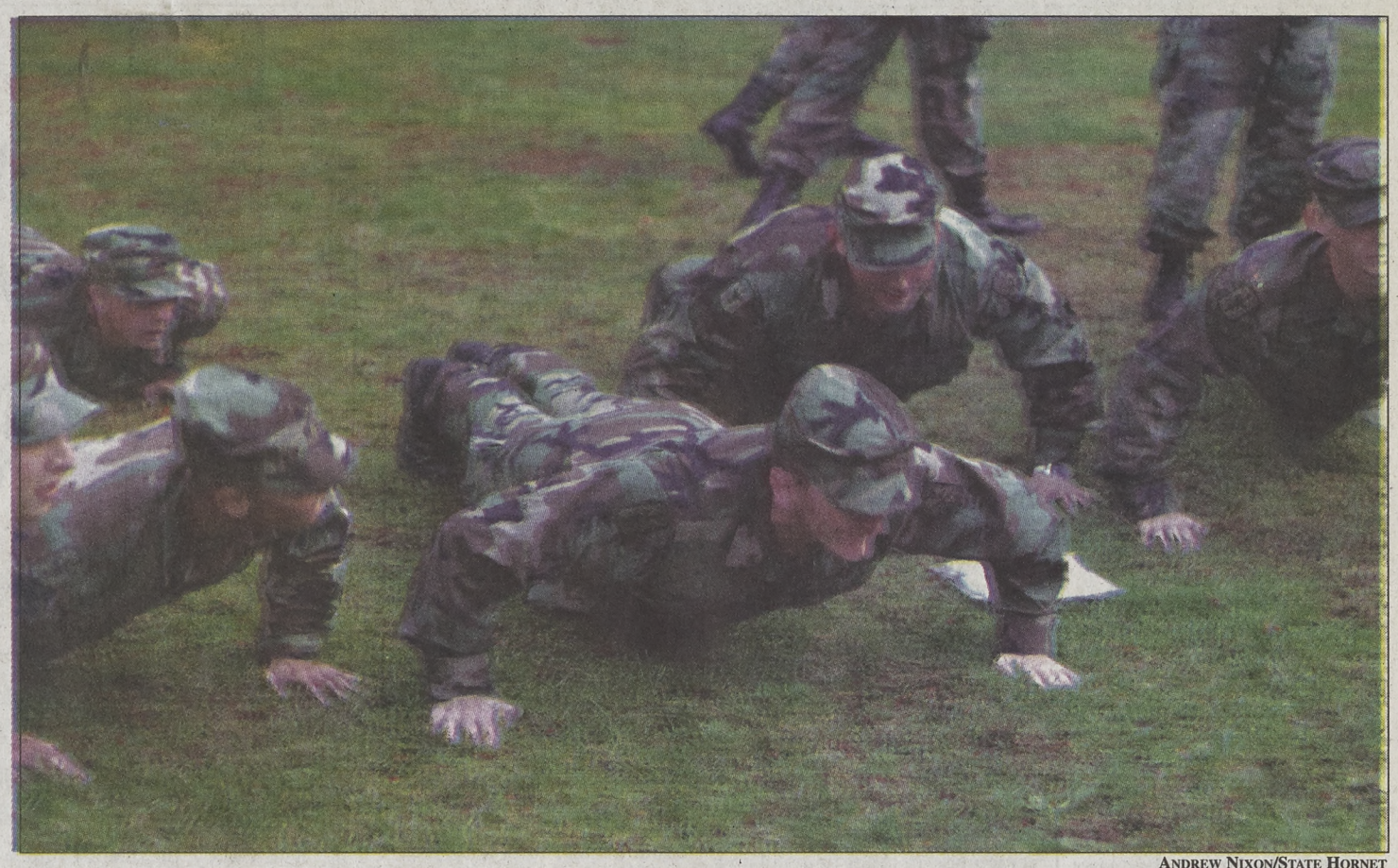
"I honestly have two or three full uniforms from each war, it's sort of a hobby for me to collect and understand the different uniforms and what they had to go through in the different wars," Braafladt said.

Braafladt said his family also has a vintage World War II Jeep that he would have liked to display in the library quad. He said it is just a little thing he can do to honor the veterans.

Major Anthony Koopman, ROTC officer in charge at Sac State and chair of the military science department, said he thinks it is important to honor our veterans because all of the freedoms we enjoy as American citizens are due to them.

"You have to really admire someone who is 18 years old and goes to war and is able to serve their country nobly and comes back to be a college student. There's a certain amount of maturity you see in these young kids when they come back," Koopman said.

At the state Capitol the Veterans Affiliated Council held a parade on Saturday to commemorate Veterans Day which took off at 11 a.m. Parade Committee Chair Mary Lou McNeill said she expected about 1,500 people to attend, including participants like veteran organizations, patriotic groups, Girl Scouts and the Sacramento City Fire Department.



ANDREW NIXON/STATE HORNET

Several ROTC cadets do push-ups in front of the ROTC building after bending the rules during their land navigation course Nov. 10 .

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SPORTS

Amey breaks record in loss

MITCH MCLAUGHLIN
State Hornet

MISSOULA, Mont. – For the second straight season, Sacramento State football finished winless on the road following its crushing 52-21 loss at Montana.

The Hornets are 0-11 in road games under second-year head coach Steve Mooshagian.

In the loss, All-American wide receiver Fred Amey set the Big Sky career mark in receiving yards as he now has 3,906 in his four years. Amey had eight catches for 106 yards and a touchdown. Amey also surpassed 1,000 yards for a season for the first time.

"The records really don't mean much to me," Amey said. "I'm just concerned with us trying to win games. I really never know my records but I guess it's good to look at in the future to compare myself to the receivers that played in I-AA like the best receiver that ever played in Jerry Rice and see my name up there with him."

For the second straight week the Hornets (3-7, 2-5 Big Sky) allowed the opposition to march down the field on the game's opening drive and get an early 7-0 lead. The start of the game almost went in the way of the Hornets, though. A tough kickoff was nearly forced out of bounds inside the Grizzly 10-yard line, but Montana's Levander Segars returned the kick 53 yards to Sac State's 43.

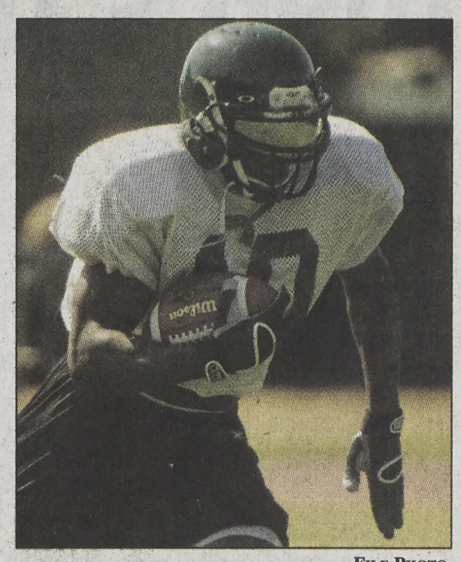
Home Game

vs. Cal Poly
Saturday, 4:05 p.m.
Hornet Stadium

"It all got started with that kickoff return," Mooshagian said. "Everybody thought he would go out of bounds and Levander made a great run and it kind of set the tone."

The Montana (8-2, 5-1) defense then did its part on the Hornets first play from scrimmage as the Grizzlies got their first of three Ryan Leadingham interceptions. The ensuing drive culminated in the second of Montana's Justin Green's three first-quarter touchdowns.

After another Leadingham turnover,



FILE PHOTO

Wide Receiver Fred Amey stands third all-time in Division I-AA in receiving yards.

Montana capitalized quickly on a trick play as receiver Jefferson Heidelberger threw a touchdown pass to quarterback Craig Ochs for another score. After the first quarter, Montana was ahead 28-0. The Grizzlies scored on all four of their drives that all started in Hornet territory.

"You can't start a game off in the first quarter with turnovers and penalties like we did and get behind 28-0," Mooshagian said. "In the other quarters we played competitively but the damage was done in the first quarter and you can't do that against a fine football team like Montana."

The Hornets got on the scoreboard early in the second quarter when Ryan Mole finished off an 11-play, 84-yard drive with a two-yard touchdown run. Leadingham and Amey connected on two 20-yard completions putting the Hornets in scoring range. The second completion broke the Big Sky record and his day put Amey fifth all-time in Division I-AA history in career yards.

Despite two Craig Ochs' touchdown passes in the third quarter, the Hornets matched the Grizzlies 14 second half points with 14 of their own to make the final 52-21.

"Ochs made some throws that I think I still

FOOTBALL: Page B4

BRIEFS

Football

Fred Amey accepted an invitation to play in the 80th Annual East West Shrine Game last Thursday. The game features the best collegiate seniors in the country and will take place Jan. 15, 2005, at SBC Park in San Francisco.

Amey follows Troy Mills (1991), Charles Roberts (2000) and former teammate Marko Cavka (2004) as the fourth Hornet ever to be invited to the game.

Currently there are more than 300 active NFL players who played in the Shrine Game and 24 in the Super Bowl and 13 in the Pro Bowl last season.

Cavka is currently on the active roster with the NFL's New York Jets and Roberts is the starting running back for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League.

Women's Golf

Margaux Sheehan and Jennifer Parkes led Sacramento State women's golf to a 12th place finish at the Cal Poly Invitational Nov. 9 at the Cypress Ridge Golf Course in Arroyo Grande.

With two round totals of 162, Sheehan and Parkes tied for 31st. Sarah Kuykendall finished tied for 41st with a total of 165 and Chante Markley and Heather LeMaster tied for 59th at 172.

Host Cal Poly won the team competition with a team score of 619, while the Hornets totaled 660.

The event concluded the Hornets fall season and they will resume March 7-9 in Phoenix, Ariz.

Men's Golf

Matt Montez, a freshman, shot identical scores of 70 in his final two rounds and tied for eighth place at the Bill Cullum/Countrywide Intercollegiate Nov. 9 at the Wood Ranch Golf Club in Simi Valley.

Montez finished with a total of 215 finished the highest of any Sacramento State golfer. Brian Little and Chad Wood were the next Hornets behind Montez and tied for 64th with totals of 231.

Tom Bingham shot 239 and finished tied for 76th while Ryan McConnell tied for 79th with 241.

Sac State men's golf ended their fall season with the tournament and will next play at the Carson Daly Invitational Feb. 7-8 at Loyola Marymount. – JOHN PARKER

Schedule

Football

Saturday vs. Cal Poly 4:05 p.m.

Volleyball

Friday-Saturday @ Big Sky Tournament
(Cheney, Wash.)

Men's Basketball

Friday @ Michigan 4:05 p.m.
Monday vs. South. Utah 7:05 p.m.
Nov. 27 @ Long Beach St. 1:05 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Friday @ San Jose State 7:05 p.m
Sunday vs. UC Riverside 2:05 p.m.
Nov. 27 vs. UC Davis 2:05 p.m.

All times Pacific

"Leaving would have (made me) a quitter. I don't see myself as a quitter" **- Stephanie Gamst**

SETTING THE TABLE

Gamst making most of chance to start at setter

JOHN PARKER
State Hornet

Senior setter Stephanie Gamst had every reason to relish Sacramento State volleyball's victory over Pacific back on Oct. 19.

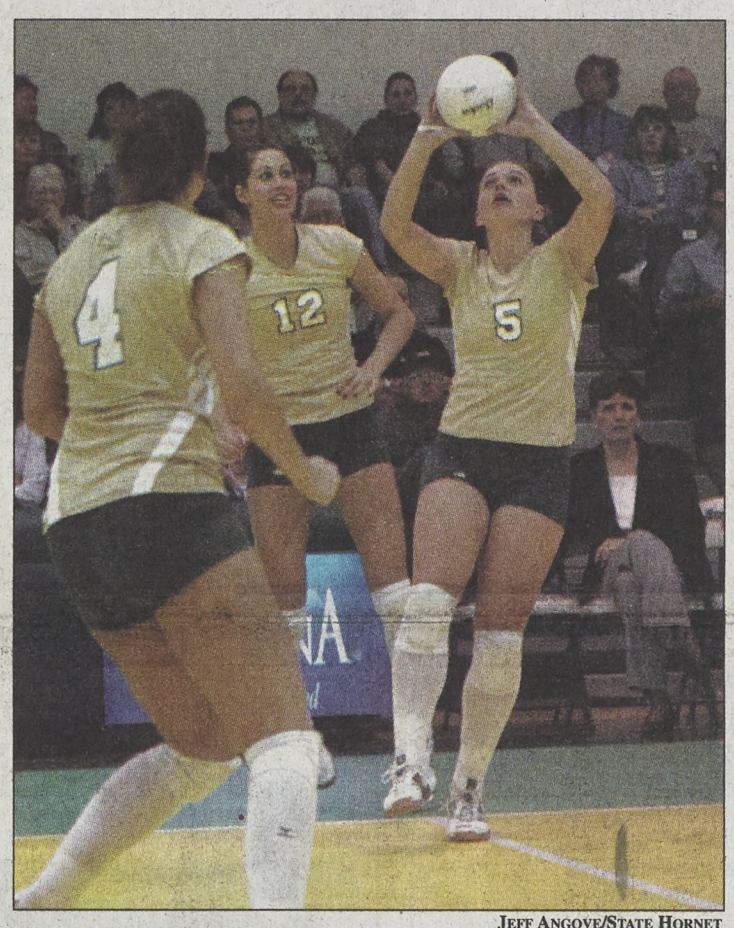
Sacramento State volleyball's only fifth-year senior was grinning from ear to ear after the Hornets beat the Tigers for the first time in seven years – and it was only right.

"She's a very dedicated player," said graduate assistant Lisa Beauchene, who came into the program at the same time as Gamst and started at setter for the past four seasons. "She doesn't have to be here, she's just taking classes so she can play.

"That shows how important this is to her."

Gamst started the tandem's first match at setter as a freshman in 2000 at Pacific. According to Gamst, head coach Debby Colberg pulled her after the first game and inserted Beauchene into the lineup. Gamst ended up playing in two of the three games in that match, tallying 11 assists while Beauchene went on to have 16 and hit .625.

The Hornets lost that match in three games yet it all but launched Beauchene's career as she was the setter for the next four years running, going on to win numerous accolades.



JEFF ANGOVE/STATE HORNET

Stephanie Gamst, right, waited four years to start at setter and now the fifth year senior will lead Sac State into the Big Sky tournament this weekend.

"I was nervous coming in and starting as a freshman," Gamst said. "That game kind of shot me in the foot."

So after a game in which Gamst dished out 37 assists in a three-game spanking of the team she was pulled against in her first career start, it was no wonder that she was all smiles.

"This feels really good," Gamst told The State Hornet afterward. "It's really satisfying to beat this team."

Before this season Gamst only got five other starts in her career either at rightside hitter or as a defensive specialist as Beauchene never missed a start from the fall of 2000 until she graduated last spring.

"It wasn't necessarily that Lisa was that much better than Stephanie, but I noticed the team did better with Lisa setting," Colberg said.

So Gamst sat. And sat, all the while waiting for her turn to start, even taking a redshirt in what would have been her sophomore season in 2001 so that she would have the opportunity to do so one day.

"It was always difficult to stay motivated knowing I wasn't going to start," Gamst said. "All I could do was work as hard as I could in practice.

"Leaving would have (made me) a quitter," Gamst said. "I don't see myself as a quitter."

"Is it a tough decision? Sometimes. Does your heart ache for the players that are on the bench? You bet," Colberg said. "My job is to get the players to buy into the fact that I have to what is best for everyone on this team and sometimes it's tough to sell that."

Although she didn't start Gamst, Colberg acknowledged that she had the ace up her sleeve all along.

"I think a lot of people may have

GAMST: Page B3

Men's soccer wins finale

JOSH CADJI
State Hornet

All that was missing from the Sac State soccer team's modest 2004 season was a road victory.

Playing in their last game, the Hornets (6-12-1, 5-7 Mountain Pacific) finally did win away from home to finish the season, breaking a four-game losing streak in the process by beating San Jose State last Thursday night, 3-0.

Sophomore forward Ryan Rhoads scored his team-leading eighth goal of the season in the 51st minute on a ball to the left corner of the net. Junior midfielder Ricky Rodriguez was on the other end of the play, feeding Rhoads for his sixth assist of 2004.

In the 75th minute, Sac State struck again when senior forward Patrick Nelle, in his last game as a Hornet, sent a pass to sophomore forward Eli Millan to start a breakaway.

Millan deposited the Nelle pass into the back of the net, out of the reach of Spartan goalkeeper Daniel Benton. For Millan, it was his fifth goal of the season, also giving Nelle his third assist of 2004.

Rodriguez added to his point total for the day in the 80th minute when he sent a free kick from 25

SOCCER: Page B4

Basketball home openers this weekend

Women start season with San Jose State, Riverside

Sheehy returns to previous school

STEVE NIXON
State Hornet

Sacramento State women's basketball opens its regular season Friday on the road against San Jose State at the Event Center at 7:05 p.m.

It's the start of a new season for the Hornets, and for sophomore guard Kim Sheehy, her first game in the green and gold will come against a group of familiar faces.

Sheehy, who comes to the Hornets from San Jose State, had to sit out last season because of NCAA transfer rules. This will be her first game in over a year.

Sheehy signed with San Jose State out of high school, but said that the program was not a good fit for her. In 2003, she transferred to Sac State.

"It's exciting," Sheehy said. "It's pretty much all I have been thinking about."

The rest of the Hornets are just as excited about starting a new season as Sheehy, with a renewed focus on defense. After a tough season in which the Hornets scored 50 points a game while giving up 68, the focus in practice has been getting things done on the defensive end of the floor as a means to getting more wins.

Senior guard Tyeisha Brown, last season's leading scorer, said that a quick start is the key.

"We have to come out strong," Brown said. "We just have to play great defense."

Defense is the consensus on the team. Sheehy said that the key for the Hornets is to play strong defense, keeping opponents out on the perimeter. The hope is that a strong defense will give the offense more chances to get down the floor quickly.

Home Game

vs. UC Riverside
Sunday, 2:05 p.m.
Hornets Nest

"We have a lot of very gifted offensive players," head coach Dan Muscatell said.

Sheehy is one of those players. At St. Michaels High in Santa Fe, N.M., Sheehy was the second leading scorer in the state, averaging 21.5 points while also averaging 4.9 rebounds and 3.1 assists per game. At San Jose State, Sheehy averaged 20.9 minutes per game for a Spartans squad that had no problem scoring.

The Spartans averaged 65.9 points per game during the 2002-03 season. After

SHEEHY: Page B3

Men to begin season at 2004 NIT champ Michigan

JIMMY SPENCER
State Hornet

The Sacramento State men's basketball team needs to work on its transition game.

After running over NAIA Bethany College, 72-45, in an exhibition game last week, the Hornets next will play on the road against top-25 caliber University of Michigan for their regular season opener.

So much for middle ground.

But the Hornets, known for their ability to make huge leaps, should be able to make the jump from hosting a small school to visiting one of the nation's best.

"It's a huge opportunity for us to test our skill level and see where we are as a program," head coach Jerome Jenkins said.

"We feel we're getting big enough and strong enough to play against teams like this," Jenkins said. "Our goal is to make the NCAA tournament and to do that we're going to have to face someone like (Michigan) in the tournament."

The Hornets began last season at Stanford, losing 77-59 and becoming the first in a line of 26 straight wins for a Cardinal team that ended the season ranked No. 1 in the nation. Despite starting 0-1, the Hornets went on to win the most games – both overall and in conference – in program history last season.

The Hornets were able to hang with Stanford last season, down just six points during the second half.

Jenkins said the Hornets aren't afraid of Michigan and will take the same approach against them as they did against Stanford.

"We're not going to just stand there and hold on to the ball," Jenkins said. "We're trying to go in there, win the basketball game and shock the world."

Home Game

vs. Southern Utah
Monday, 7:05 p.m.
Hornets Nest

Senior guard Jameel Pugh, who had a team-high 18 points against Stanford last season, said the team isn't scared of Michigan.

"They're not superhuman," Pugh said. "We're not afraid of the name on their jersey. We've been preparing ourselves for a game like this and were not going to back down from anyone."

The game versus the Wolverines is one of three guaranteed games on the Hornets schedule, all of which total $130,000 in revenue for Sac State athletics according to athletics director Terry Wanless. The Hornets will also play visitor to Fresno State (Dec. 11) and Oregon State (Dec. 28).

MICHIGAN: Page B3

Who is men's hoops' Most Valuable?



Steve Nixon

Jameel Pugh

Who will lead the Hornets to the Big Sky Conference tournament, and possibly, dare I hope (dare, dare), to March Madness, the NCAA Men's Basketball tournament?

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's Jameel Pugh and his highlight reel dunks.

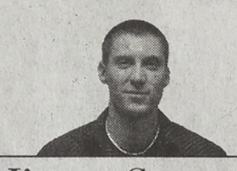
Let's be real, crowd energy is vital this year, as it is every year in a 1,200 seat high school gym. There is a reason that most college teams have ridiculous home winning streaks, or at the very least really good home records, and it sure isn't the subtle differences in floor quality from court to court. It's the crowd energy. And very little gets people going like a crazy dunk.

In the NBA, the most popular event during All-Star weekend, aside from celebrity watching, in the dunk contest. Jason Richardson, Michael Jordan, and Dominique Wilkins have all made, at least in part, their name as a result of the dunk contest.

Jameel Pugh will lead his team this year. He is the leading returning scorer from last year's team and most of those points did not come from the perimeter. The dunks are what it's all about and if the crowd reaction to "Supafly's" dunk exhibition at the Hornet Hoopfest is any indication, this team is going be supported like crazy.

Don't get me wrong, the team is going to need more than Pugh going above the rim. No team can win with some defense and a little perimeter shooting. But the heart of this team will lie in Pugh's hands, right alongside the rock.

So Jameel will lead, the team will follow and the crowd will cheer for both. It's a safe bet, though, that the most noise for the team is going to come as Pugh slams one home.



Jimmy Spencer

DaShawn Freeman

The Hornets are a different team than last year. While last year's squad resembled an NBA team with different cliques and personas, this year's team is a well-rounded college basketball team.

The leader of that team: DaShawn Freeman, junior point guard and team MVP.

Jameel Pugh has the hops and the points, but don't let the shadow of his reverse dunk shade what Freeman does for the Hornets. Freeman, an Oakland native and St. Mary's High School graduate, has started more games as a Hornet than any other member of the team. With leaders Joseth Dawson, Joel Jones and Brandon Guyton gone, it's Freeman's team.

He brings all the cliché qualities: heart, intensity and desire.

The guy is so quick defensively he makes opposing point guards look like drunken parks and rec fifth graders. A floor general, he knows when to slow things down and when to throw a backboard alley for a trailing Pugh – sometimes.

Other postseason or yearbook-like awards:

Coach of the Year: Jerome Jenkins. A given for this squad, but arguably the best coach at Sacramento State. Also wins: Most Intimidating on the floor award.

Sixth man of the year: E.J. Harris will put up big numbers this year.

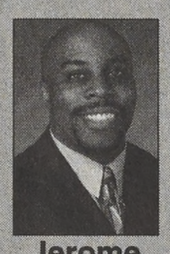
Most likely to accidentally dunk: Jameel "sometimes my legs do what they want" Pugh.

Breakout season: Alex Bausley – focused, quiet man worked hard in off-season to earn my award.

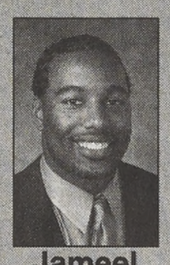
Most likely to block a teammates shot: Aaron Perry. Such a good shot blocker that he might block a Pugh dunk, just to show him that he can.

Most likely to recruit a player from the Detroit area: Assistant coach Dwayne Canada.

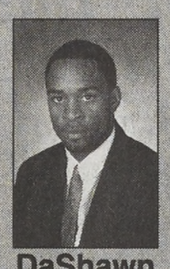
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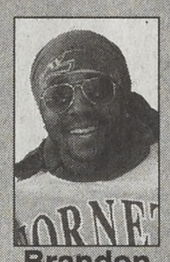
Jerome Jenkins



Jameel Pugh



DaShawn Freeman



Brandon Jackson



Robert Alvis

Jerome Jenkins

When you think about Duke, you think Coach K.

When you think Louisville, Rick Pitino.

When you think Kentucky, Tubby Smith.

When you think Sacramento State, well, you don't unless you go here or are a member of the Big Sky conference.

You don't think about them … yet.

Head coach Jerome Jenkins knows that winning the conference puts Sac State on the map as a school that plays during the Madness.

The Big Sky receives an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament, and barring any strange development, the only way for us to make the Big Dance is to win the conference.

Jenkins wants to win that Big Sky championship in our cozy little Hornets Nest that turns into an oven, literally, during playoffs. If you were there last year, you know what I mean.

He will achieve this goal because he can motivate and lead.

In the few brief encounters I have had with the team, a few things are evident.

One, Jenkins is the boss. He controls his players.

Two, this team seems close. Closeness either breeds contempt or chemistry. With the turnover from last season to now, that chemistry will be necessary to win.

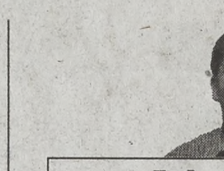
Three, he can recruit. The freshmen and transfers this year look good. They can ball.

College basketball is not like the pros. The players don't receive the accolades.

There is no Allen Iverson, no Shaq and no Kobe Bryant.

Unlike the pros, college players don't decide who coaches their team and complaining about minutes to the media isn't a good way to boost your time.

A little love should also be given to Jenkins' assistant coaching staff of Dwayne Canada, Zac Claus and Jared Barrett.



John Parker

Brandon Jackson

Don't worry about the Sacramento State men's basketball players on the court this year – they'll be just fine.

Jameel Pugh will fly; Alex Bausley will knock down treys like they're on sale for $19.99 and DaShawn Freeman will pick opposing guards' pockets with more frequency than a New York City grafter.

Likewise, Jerome Jenkins will orchestrate the whole thing with all the grace and genius befitting the composer of a Hardwood symphony.

But the man that will lead this team to the 'promised land' doesn't sit on the bench – hell – he doesn't even sit at all. While most that will pass through the green double doors at the Hornets Nest this year will look to relax and take in a quality basketball contest, Brandon Jackson will just be getting to work.

The Derek Lambeth jersey-clad superfan has been a mainstay in the cheering section ever since the team played at the Memorial Auditorium back in 1999. Since he's a student, he doesn't have to pay for a seat, which is good because he wouldn't use it anyway.

Jackson's antics include stirring up the crowd in the student section by making the undercarriage of the bleachers rattle with his jumping, yelling personalized words of encouragement to each and every player and breaking out the umbrella during that ever-so-unexpected downpour of threes.

The Hornets were 10-4 at home last year and it wasn't because they had someone to tuck them in at night. It was because of the raucous environment in the Nest that fans with Jackson's passion bring to throw opponents anticipating a nice jog past the lowly Hornets off their game.

So get up off your ass and come out to support the most exciting team on this campus while they roll through the Big Sky and two-step right into the Big Dance.

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Sacramento State ATHLETE of the WEEK



Laura Harder, Rowing

November 15-21, 2004

Junior Laura Harder has been named Hornet Bookstore Athlete of the Week after helping lead the Sacramento State rowing team to a third-place finish (in a 17-boat field) at the Head of the American and a fifth-place finish (in a 23-boat field) at the Newport Autumn Rowing Festival.

A native of Redlands, Calif., Harder competed with the Hornets' top boat in every race last year and has sat in the stroke seat in each of Sacramento State's two races during the fall. Harder, who became the sixth Hornet rower to earn CRCA National Scholar-Athlete honors last season, has competed in 26-straight races with the Hornets' varsity eight over the last two-plus seasons. A team tri-captain this year, Harder currently has a 3.75 gpa as an Accounting and Finance major. She has been named to the Dean's List every year since her arrival to Sacramento State and is on pace to graduate next year.

Hornet Bookstore
www.bookstore.csus.edu

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SACRAMENTO STATE HORNETS

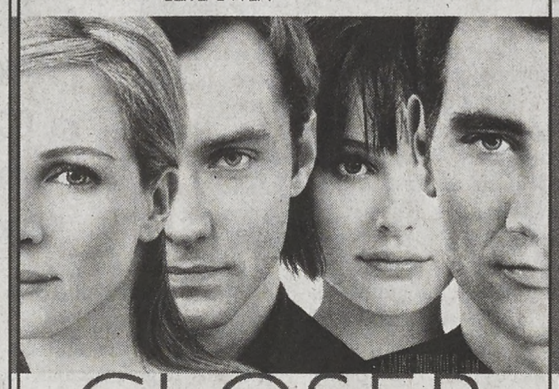
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Christmas with the KRANKS
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CLOSER
opens in theatres on Friday, December 3!

GAMST: One more run at Big Sky title

Continued from B1

thought Sac State would not be as good a team without Lisa," head coach Debby Colberg said. "I didn't think that because I know how good Stephanie is."

All Gamst did in her fifth season with the program was repay the faith Colberg and the team had in her, finishing the regular season second in the Big Sky in assists with 12.02 per game while setting the table for a Hornets offense that is first in the conference in kills (15.90 per game) and second in hitting percentage (.232).

"(Having a good setter) sets the tone for your team, they can make you quicker or slow you down," said senior outside hitter Sandra Bandimere who is second in the Big Sky averaging 4.38 kills per game. "(Gamst) definitely makes my job easier."

It won't get any easier for Gamst or the Hornets now as every match they play from here on out could be their last. Sac State will be the No. 2 seed and have a bye in the first round of the Big Sky Conference tournament at Eastern Washington.

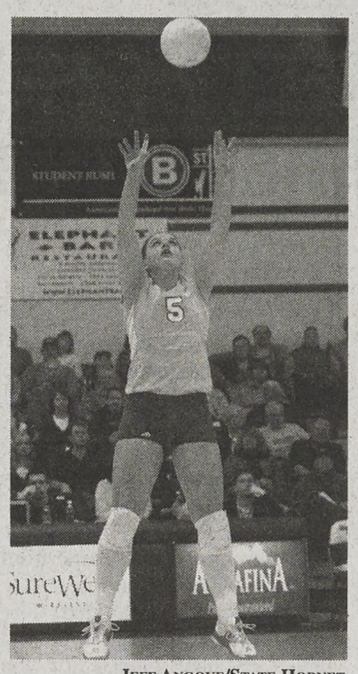
Gamst has not been on the losing end of a Big Sky tournament game in her playing career; the year she redshirted and did not play was the last time the Hornets lost the Big Sky title match. Sac State also won the conference championship in her freshman year of 2000.

"I'm not superstitious, but I'll take that as being a good sign for us," Colberg said.

Big Sky tournament team capsules:

No. 6 Northern Arizona (7-18, 4-10): Picked to finish seventh by the coaches in the preseason poll after an eventful offseason, the Lumberjacks came out and posted upsets over conference foe Montana State and Arizona State of the Pac-10. They will have a rematch with the Bobcats in the first round on Thursday night.

No. 5 Portland State (13-14, 5-9): The Vikings come into the tournament having lost their last three matches – all of which were in conference. They split the season series with their opening round opponent Idaho State. If Portland State advances it would be the furthest the school has gone in the Big Sky tournament in 19 years.



JEFF ANGOVE/STATE HORNET

Stephanie Gamst was second in the Big Sky conference in assists with 12.02 per game.

No. 4 Idaho State (12-16, 8-6): The Bengals are a team stacked at outside hitter with 2003 all-Conference first team selection Ali Gorny and 2003 Most Outstanding Freshman Nikki Randall. They began the season at home with a five-game upset of No. 3 seed Montana State and followed that up with a sweep of the Bobcats in Bozeman, Mont.

No. 3 Montana State (18-7, 10-4): One of three teams to defeat the Sac State this season, Eastern Washington and Idaho State being the other two, sweeping the Hornets in Bozeman and forcing a fourth game in Sacramento.

"We have to be ready to rally with them," Bandimere said of the Bobcats. "They play great defense and we'll have to be patient."

No. 1 Eastern Washington (19-7, 12-2): The Eagles will host the tournament for the third straight year after going through the regular season dropping matches to just Sac State (23-7, 11-3) and Montana State, both on the road.

"We just have to go in tough minded and be tough competitors," Colberg said. "We've been there before, we know what it's like."

Sac State plays the highest remaining seed in the semifinals Friday at 5:00 p.m. The Hornets have beaten Eastern in the past two consecutive Big Sky title matches contested at Reese Court in Cheney, Wash.

MICHIGAN: Home game against Davis on Dec. 1

Continued from B1

Hornets football earned $125,000 to play at University of Reno earlier this season.

The Hornets will return home for their season opener on Nov. 22 against Southern Utah. Last season Sac State won three straight games after their opening loss against Stanford.

The Hornets second home game of the season will be UC Davis on Dec. 1. Big Sky Conference play will begin on Jan. 6 on the road against Portland State. Sac State's first Big Sky home contests will take place during winter break, with games against Idaho State (Jan. 13) and Weber State (Jan. 15).

NOTES:

Senior point guard James Payne and junior forward Chris Lange are both on academic probation and will be unable to play until early January.

"All my freshmen impressed me. They were fearless out there. They are all going to play this season." --

Jerome Jenkins
Men's Basketball Coach

"It's a tremendous loss," Jenkins said. "Payne is one of our floor leaders and knows the offense like the back of his hand," Jenkins said. "That is a huge loss for us right now, but I am very confident in both DaShawn (Freeman) and E.J. (Harris)."

The team's emergency point guard until Payne's return is 6-foot-4, 210 pound Jason Harris.

The Hornets were strong early in the exhibition win against Bethany College – located in Scotts Valley, just outside Santa Cruz – jumping out to a 31-4 lead midway through the first half. Pugh scored 24 points in the contest, including two spectacular dunks.

Both Harris and freshman Randy Adams sat out the exhibition with minor ankle injuries, but both should be available against Michigan. Freshman Davon Roberts played significant minutes and contributed eight points on 4-of-6 shooting and five rebounds. Other freshmen Schuyler McKay and Jason Gilzene played 18 and 20 minutes respectively.

"All my freshmen impressed me," Jenkins said. "They were fearless out there. They are all going to play this season."

SHEEHY: Team retooled to avenge losses

Continued from B1

sitting out for a full year, she is ready to join the Hornets as they add seven new players. Both Sheehy and Brown said that the team chemistry is good and that the veterans are mixing well with the new players.

The Hornets lost to San Jose State last year, 70-39.

Two days after the opener at the Spartans, the Hornets return to the valley for their home opener Sunday against UC Riverside at 2:05 p.m. in the Hornets Nest.

Last year, Riverside knocked off the Hornets 58-50. It will be very different team this year as the Highlanders lost three seniors from last year's squad including leading scorer Crystal Harris. Riverside also added a new coaching staff in the off-season.

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FOOTBALL: Mole runs for 177

Continued from B1

could've caught at 45 years old," Mooshagian quipped.

"Those were some NFL throws he was making. As an old NFL guy he convinced me that he could play at that next level."

Freshman running back Mole continued to shine for the Hornets. Mole rushed for 177 yards on 23 carries, giving him his fourth 100-yard game of the season and second in two games.

"When you almost have a 200-yard rusher and a 100-yard receiver you don't lose very often, but turnovers did us in," Mooshagian said about the Hornets five turnovers.

"We didn't come out flat, we just came out ready to play, but they took advantage of every one of our miscues," Mooshagian said. "You can't make the mistakes we made and expect to beat a team that plays as well as they do at home."

SOCCER: Slow start hurt season

Continued from B1

yards out past Benton for his third goal of the season; all three of his goals in 2004 have come against San Jose State.

With the win, the Hornets got third place in the conference, a loss on Thursday would've given them last place.

"I was scared before the game, because it was either third place or last place for us," sophomore midfielder Brandon Baggett said. "This was the one game we had to win and we did it; we proved everybody wrong that predicted we'd finish last."

"We got that one road win we were looking for and this gives us some momentum towards next season," head coach Michael Linenberger said. "The bus ride home was unbelievable; the players were singing and chanting- it was great."

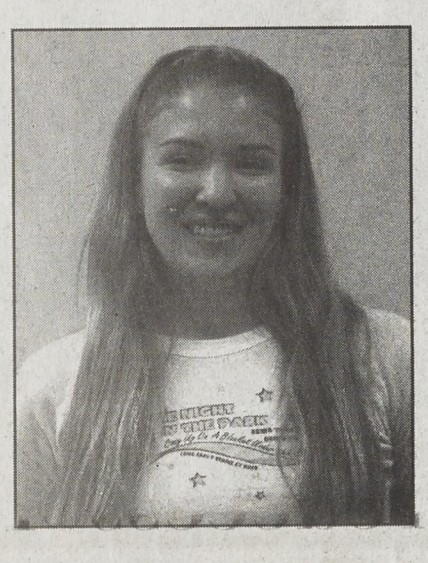
Sac State goalkeeper Matt McDougall had four saves against the Spartans, which gives him 109 on the year, a program record for saves in one season by a Hornet.

"As a whole, I'm a little disappointed in the outcome of the season; we had a lot of players come in out of shape and injured, so we got off to a slow start," Linenberger said. "We have to be more consistent if we want to become champions.

"But we had a lot of positives this year, too; Rhoads came out of nowhere and played great," Linenberger said. "Next year, we have good recruits coming in, so things are looking up."

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— Amber N. Tubbs
Graphic Design Major
Marketing/Journalism Minors

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Amey, others to play at home one last time on Senior night

JAMESON PERHAC
State Hornet

The end of this season symbolizes a new beginning for Sacramento State football as it loses two of their more prolific seniors.

Senior quarterback Ryan Leadingham and senior wide receiver Fred Amey call it quits for Division I-AA after Senior Night in Hornet Stadium this Saturday at 4:05 p.m. against Cal Poly.

Amey continues to perform, setting the Big Sky record for career receiving yards only last week with 3,806 in a 52-21 loss to Montana. Amey has arguably been the most dominant receiver to ever play for Sac State and hopes to enter the draft after his fourth year.

Leadingham leaves head coach Steve Mooshagian after setting a few records of his own. The senior quarterback set the bar for career passing yards, completions and attempts during his five-year stay in Sacramento.

Last week, Leadingham struggled against No. 9 Montana, passing for only 128 yards. Despite the low passing yards, Leadingham found both Phillip Perry and Amey in the end zone for a pair of touchdowns.

"I want to win … we got some momentum and it looks like we finally figured out how to play like a team," Leadingham said.

Amey continued his Big Sky domination, catching eight passes for 108 yards and a touchdown in the loss.

Ramon Payne, the best defensive back on the team, will look to shut down the opposition in his final performance. Payne, whose five interceptions have him in a three-way tie for first in the conference, has one more chance to add to his sparkling four-year Hornet career after coming to Sac State from Gunderson High in San Jose.

Chris Bessinger and Harry Filo from the defensive line will also play their last games for the Hornets, looking to add to the school record for team sacks in a single-season, which was eclipsed two weeks ago at Eastern Washington and currently stands at 33.

The Mustangs threaten with an assortment of offensive weapons. Senior wide receiver Darrell Jones is coming off a strong game, catching 10 passes for 126 yards and a touchdown against Northern Colorado.

Senior running back Geno Randle matched Jones' performance, rushing for 195 yards on 16 carries and a pair of touchdowns. The Hornet defense will have to find a way to contain the Mustang's two most explosive players in order to win the final game of the season and improve.

Other departing seniors

Antone Bogetti/WR
Has 13 career receptions for 146 yards and a career long 22 yarder.

Brian Herman/C
Started eight games at center this year for the injured Dustin Nicolodi.

Todd Marshall/P
Led the team with 40 punts a year ago averaging 37.8 yards per kick.

Harry Filo/DL
Started one game at defensive tackle this season. He has 25 career tackles.

Heath Villarreal/LB
Transferred for his senior season from St. Mary's. He has 21 tackles.

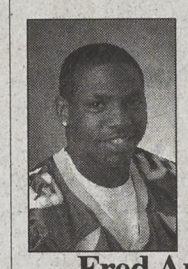
Mason Mitchell/DL
Has battled back injuries in his four-year career. He has 14 career tackles.

Mohammad Warrad/RB
Recorded his first career carry against Weber State earlier this year.

Fred Kelley/LB
Transferred to Sac State from Idaho prior to this season.

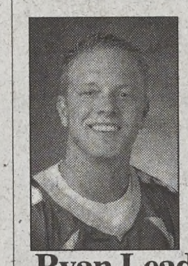
Cameron DeBruckyer/LS
Has served as the Hornets long snapper for the past four seasons.

Departing seniors



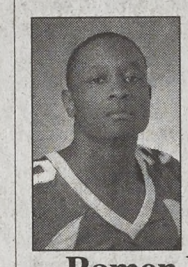
Program record in receiving yards (3,906), receptions (239) and touchdowns (27). Has caught a pass in every game of his career.

Fred Amey/WR



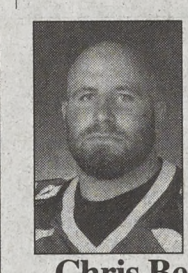
Sacramento State career leader in completions (647), passing yards (8,223), attempts (1,164) and touchdown passes (49).

Ryan Leadingham/QB



Currently fifth on the all-time Hornet list for interceptions with seven, including five over the span of two games earlier this season.

Ramon Payne/CB



Transferred to Sacramento State from Fresno City Junior College prior to last year and has amassed 88 total tackles in his two seasons.

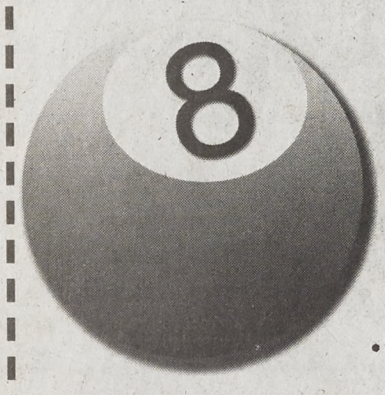
Chris Bessinger/DT



Came to the Hornets from Wisconsin prior to this season. Had a touchdown and interception in the win over No. 17 Montana State.

Traison Lewis/DT

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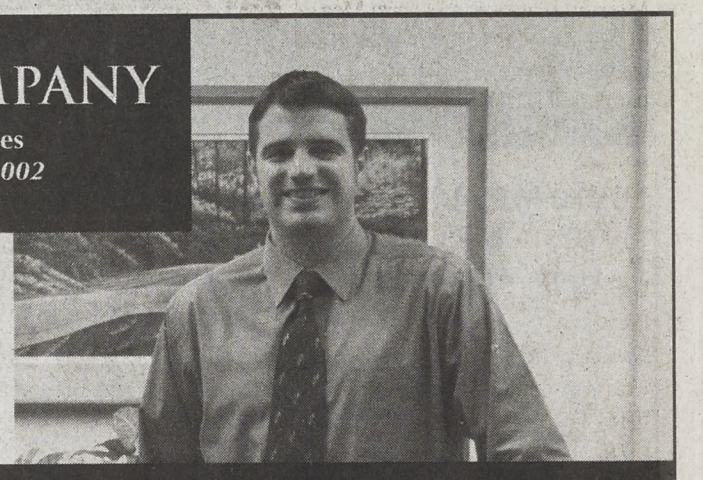
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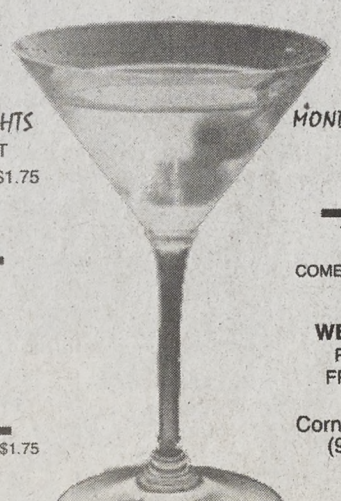


Bryan A. Davis
Assistant Sales Manager
NAPA Sacramento

• Sports Director/Radio Commentator for KSSU campus Radio, Sacramento (Fall 1999–Fall 2001). Acted as a liason between CSUS Athletic dept. and KSSU.
• Graduated from CSUS in Spring 2002 with a BS in Business Administration concentration in Strategic Management with a minor in Communications.
• Began working for Genuine Parts Company in October 2002 as a management Trainee.
• Promoted to the Assistant Warehouse manager after finishing the management training program.
• Promoted to Assistant Sales Manager, Spring 2004

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FEATURES



SCREENSHOT COURTESY OF ROCKSTARGAMES.COM. PHOTO : CHRIS LOTT / STATE HORNET

In the newest edition of "Grand Theft Auto," CJ, the main character in "San Andreas," can be made into a gang member, a vigilante or even a pimp. Freshman Jordanne Campusano gets wrapped as she plays the recently released game in Desmond Hall.

REVIEW

Aspects of 'Grand Theft Auto' improved in San Andreas edition

DARREN BECKER
State Hornet

Three years ago, "Grand Theft Auto 3" was released for the Play Station 2 and it started a revolution in gaming. The change in camera angles from top down into third person was enough to send the game to game of the year.

A year later, Rockstar Games came out with the "Grand Theft Auto: Vice City", which once again sold millions of copies and was game of the year.

Now, "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" is released and, for many gaming fans, it couldn't come soon enough.

The hero, CJ, is well-rounded compared to the guy from GTA3, but Rockstar has had three years to improve this.

There have been new features added to "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas." Now, players have to eat in order to stay alive and exercise to gain muscle. The aim of the newer versions of the GTA series is to make the experience of the game as real as possible.

By the end of the game, everyone's CJ will be physically and financially different depending on the way each person played the game. Each character is custom-designed by the players, from what they eat to how they dress and exercise.

There are new vehicles and weapons to choose from. Players can use a bike to get from one place to another or they could commit Grand Theft Auto and steal any vehicle he likes.

"Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" has a huge radio system featured in it. With over 10 radio stations, the average player could play through most of the game without hearing the same part twice. That is what they want you to think at least.

After hearing the talk stations for the third or fourth time, you start to get bored. By the time the stations get boring, you should be focusing on your missions at hand anyways because they should be hard by that point. There is something strangely eerie about doing a drive-by while listening to Mexican Festival music.

Violence is a key issue for players and adversaries of GTA. Part of the game includes shoot-outs with cops and killing prostitutes. Adversaries complained about the "needless violence," but Rockstar specifically made the game for PS2, traditionally a system preferred by older gamers over Nintendo, and put a 17 and over rating on it, so that younger and more impressionable players wouldn't have easy access to the game.

The plot of this game is different than the previous two. Players can make CJ a gang member if they wish. That's a change from the mafia themes of GTA 3 and Vice City. It is interesting from the start, because players have rival gangs that will shoot at them or attack them on sight.

Players don't have to do all of the gang missions if they don't want to. They can become a vigilante who helps out the police, or a taxi driver who just needs a little extra dough, and with enough effort and hard work, they can even become a pimp.

More could have been done to improve graphics, and GTA still has no multiple player abilities. Because of this, although GTA is a fun and challenging play, it doesn't deserve the game of the year award.

Calendar of events

Today

Music, Sacramento State Vocal Jazz Ensembles featuring C-Sus and Vox2, noon, University Union Redwood Room.

Music, "Clarinet Potpourri" with Sacramento State Clarinet Choir, 7 p.m., Capistrano Hall 151.

Apollo Night, 6:30 p.m., University Union Redwood Room, $5 general/$3 Sacramento State students.

Law School Forum, includes free workshops on LSAT preparation, overview of the application process, law school admissions Q & A, free raffle for Kaplan prep course, 3-7 p.m., Alumni Center.

Thursday

Music, Cafe Tacuba, Mexican rock, 7:30 p.m., University Union Ballroom, $25 general/$15 Sacramento State students.

Friday

Theater, The Trial of One Short-Sighted Black Woman vs. Mammy Louise and Safreeta Mae, by Karani Marcia Leslie, directed by guest director Buddy Butler, 8 p.m., Playwrights' Theatre, Shasta Hall, $15 general/$8 students and seniors. Performances Nov. 19-21 and Dec. 2-5.

Renaissance Society Forum, "The Underground Railroad: The Use of Ships in the Route to Freedom," Guy Washington, National Park Service, 3-4 p.m., University Union Redwood Room. (916) 278-7834.

Rock Auction, features bidding on rock and mineral samples from around the world, field trips, jewelry, wine and more, 6-9 p.m., Alumni Center. (916) 278-6295.

Renaissance Society Forum, "The Underground Railroad: The Use of Ships in the Route to Freedom," Guy Washington, National Park Service, 3-4 p.m., University Union Redwood Room.

Saturday

Freshman Admission Day, one-day special event for potential Sacramento State Freshmen who want an early admission decision, by appointment only, University Union. Registration required by Oct. 31. (916) 278-7875.

Sunday

Music, Piano Series guest artist Richard Glazies, $10 general/$8 students and seniors, 7:30 p.m., Music Recital Hall in Capistrano Hall.

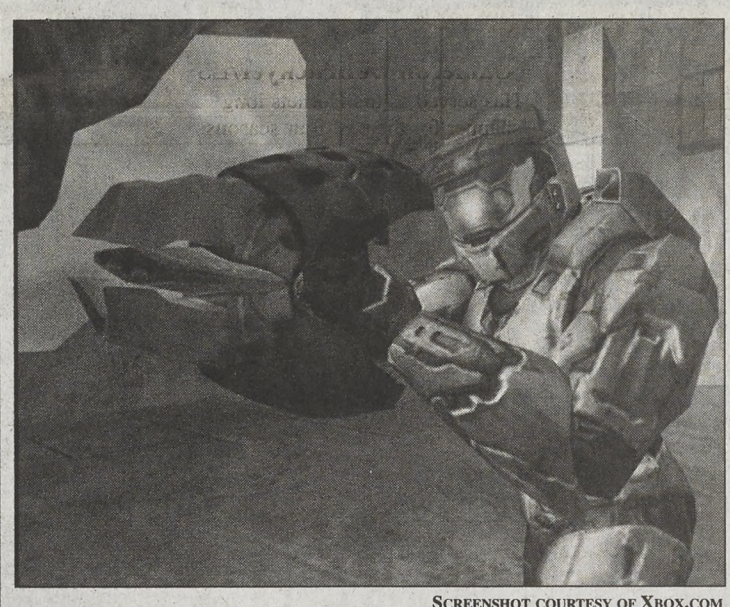
Monday

Exhibit, Student photography, Design Gallery, Mariposa Hall 4000E, call (916) 278-3962 for gallery hours. Continues to Dec. 3. Reception, 5 p.m., Dec. 2, Design Gallery.

Film, "Made in Thailand," documentary about women garment workers in Thailand, noon, Women's Resource Center, Library 1010.

Tuesday

Lecture, Artist Suzanne Lacy, Perspectives in Contemporary Art series, 6 p.m., Mendocino Hall 1000.



SCREENSHOT COURTESY OF XBOX.COM

The single player epic in Halo 2 is more complex than the original.

'Halo 2' kills predecessor

JOSH CADJI
State Hornet

Some things in life you never want to replace, no matter what.

Then a new version comes out and smokes the old one, and you never look back.

Perfect example: "Halo 2."

The end of the human race seemed imminent in "Halo," when the alien led-Covenant tried to take over the Halo ring and use it to destroy the humans. Though thanks to the Master Chief (main character), the humans thwarted any chance that they'd fall prey to the evolved aliens.

The same premise, albeit a more intricate one, is devised for the long-awaited "Halo 2," as once again the Halo ring is under attack and it's the job of the human race to protect this potentially deadly weapon from getting in the proverbial wrong hands.

With an inspiring and epic single player game feature, even more complex than the original, you take on the role of Master Chief, the messiah warrior of the humans. But that's not it. Players become an Elite (alien warrior), which adds an intriguing twist to the game because they're no longer the prototypical hero.

The campaign, as it's called in the game, also features an option that allows you to play with a partner; this mode is definitely a plus – best for some late night bonding with a buddy.

A mind-blowing 15 levels, as opposed to the nine in the original, gives you the feeling that you're not just playing a video game, but instead enthralled in the story.

Throughout the journey, players have access to all of the weapons, including the newly-developed weapons made exclusively for the sequel. Possibly the most exciting new addition to "Halo 2" is the Energy Sword, which shreds and guts enemies with one slash to the body.

Subtle changes were made to the

HALO: Page B9

Capitol Garage re-opens doors

AMANDA FULKERSON
State Hornet

When Jerry Mitchell, owner of the beloved downtown hangout Capitol Garage, was forced to close the doors of his 15th and L streets location, he was faced with a dilemma. Where should the beloved coffee shop relocate? He found his answer across the street.

Capitol Garage provided a unique atmosphere to Sacramento's nightlife. Located near the state capitol, the Garage was the coffee shop for hundreds of state workers in the early morning and host to local bands and loud music at night.

Mitchell, who also owns Fuel Coffee Bar inside the downtown Sheraton hotel, moved the Garage one block away to 15th and K streets where business could not be better.

The new Garage features liquor and coffee bars, fresh pastries, as well as a full menu during the day and a packed schedule of entertainment in the evening.

The bands are still loud, however, some students feel like the Garage has lost some of its charm.

"The old Garage had a grungy edge to it," said Ken Marcus, a junior at Sacramento State. "The new place just feels like a Starbucks."

A graffiti style "Garage" sign hangs behind the stage and artwork decorates the walls, but the new building and lack of concrete floors definitely has a cleaned up feeling.

The paint may be new, but the entertainment is all original.



JAMIE GONZALES / STATE HORNET

Recording artist Radio Active checks the sound system at Capitol Garage Coffee Company prior to his performance.

"I came to support my friend's band," Sac State senior Xavier Green said. "Capitol Garage is one of the only places to hear good live music without all the (stuff) like dress codes and high cover charges."

Supervisor Steve Chance said local and touring bands still rock the Garage on Friday and Saturday nights. As for the mid week, Chance said the Garage offers an open mic night Tuesdays, amateur night hosted by a local DJ Thursdays and karaoke hosted by Chance on Sundays.

Because its drip bar stays open late hours, some nights it may be the only place in town to get a truly fresh cup of coffee.

If you are looking for something stronger than coffee, the Garage offers a full bar until 2 a.m. Wednesday through Saturday including top shelf liquors not commonly found in downtown watering holes. The Garage offers happy hour from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. with dollar discounts on beer and appetizers.

The Capitol Garage opens at 6 a.m. Monday through Friday and closes at midnight Monday through Wednesday. The nightly cover charge varies from $3 to $10 depending on who is performing. All shows are 21 and over, but all ages are welcome during the day and early evening.

Chance welcomes bands of all genres to play at the Capitol Garage. If you think you've got what it takes to rock the Garage, visit www.aebooking.com for audition information.

Student author creates inspiring children's book

DANIEL DELUCA
State Hornet

Along with going to school, working and the other commitments being a student entails, free time to pursue other interests is hard to come by.

A Sacramento State student has accomplished pursuing her interests by writing her own children's book, "The Unaccepted Child."

Marie Celestin is a graduating senior and mother, but decided to attempt to publish a story she wrote for her daughter after she realized the positive effect it can have on children.

"The book's message is to promote self-esteem and to offer solutions of dealing with the rejection that we all experience growing up," Celestin said.

The insecurities didn't all develop from her daughter. Celestin felt similar feelings after attending Sac State as an older woman.

"The book can be relatable on so many levels," Celestin said.

Once a business major, Celestin switched to English after the enjoyment she experienced while writing the book and the success the book has achieved.

When deciding to publish her book on her own, her business skills really came in handy.

Celestin found her own illustrator online, found her own printer and funded the entire process herself.

"I didn't want to have to deal with the rejection of looking for a publisher," Celestin said.

Although the experience of publishing the book herself was very taxing, and very expensive, it was all worth it.

Celestin has already made back in sales everything that she put into the book. For Celestin, though, it wasn't about the money.

"It's never was about the money," Celestin said. "It is about the message."

The story was written for her oldest daughter, who was having feelings of rejection and insecurity because of issues at school.

Celestin's goal has already been achieved, with the book being published, but she hopes that the book is available in every library, and would love for it to become part of every elementary school's required curriculum.

Although Celestin has been featured in the Sacramento Bee twice, her greatest feeling of achievement came when she discovered her biggest idol owned "The Unaccepted Child."

"I heard the Maya Angelou had my book," she said. "It was the greatest moment of my life."

Celestin has already completed her next children's book, which will be out later this year and "The Unaccepted Child" is available in the Hornet Bookstore.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWYROCKS.COM

Local band Three Weeks Yesterday, who first played in coffee houses, is now releasing its third album.

REVIEW

Third time's a charm

AMANDA FULKERSON
State Hornet

Local pop-punk band Three Weeks Yesterday's true to life lyrics and choruses made for singing along will draw the attention of those committed to the Top 40 and those committed to true punk music.

Three Weeks Yesterday is made up of four guys who all grew up in Elk Grove and attended Laguna Creek High. After graduation in 2000, bassist John Wheeler and guitarist Chris Hinche decided to form a band. Mix in songwriter, guitarist and high school band-mate Nate Prescott and drummer Morley Boyer and the band of today is formed.

The band has been through its share of excitement and disappointment. In 2002, Three Weeks Yesterday was signed to an independent record label, Blue Fire records, an experience it calls a big waste of time but also a learning experience.

The band's perseverance and consistent touring has paid off with the opportunity to be featured on Drive Thru record's compilation album to be distributed worldwide this January. The track "Never Changing Past" is a good example of the band's emotionally driven sound.

To date, Three Weeks Yesterday has released three records. The most recent, "Fighting the Sickness" is its most accomplished. The album is its first to be recorded in a high-quality studio and the excellence and coherence of its newest sound demonstrates the band's maturity.

Despite the development of Three Weeks Yesterday's music, the band's touring could still see some improvement. Touring consists of piling the guys and their instruments into Morley's 16-passenger van and hitting the road.

Since 2002, the guys have been on the road more than 10 times, playing venues in Southern California, Arizona, Nevada and Idaho. In 2002, Three Weeks Yesterday was able to play dates on the Van's Warped Tour, a far cry from its humble beginnings performing at the Laguna coffee house – Sweet Bean.

BAND: Page B9

REVIEW

The sound of L.A. and the soul of a man

JULIE HARJU
State Hornet



PHOTO COURTESY OF FREDALBA.COM

The members of Fredalba traveling, and posing, together during the summer of 2004.

If someone didn't already like Fredalba, one phone conversation is enough to change a person's perspective on the band.

From joking around about drummer Blair Shott's penchant for a certain kind of underwear, to guitarist Tiffen "Rooster" Roley declaring his eternal love for touring (and tour buses), the band members exude a comic and totally unpretentious manner.

The band may joke around, but their new album "Uptown music from the Downtown Kids"has a serious kick. Rhythm, bass, flute, ripping guitar and a whole lot of charm underscore the deeply philosophical lyrics and a take on life that puts things in a whole new perspective for the listener.

Pigeonholing the type of music the band plays isn't really their thing.

"It's a big collage of many different musical styles," Roley said.

Flutist Charmain Callon said the bare bones definition of Fredalba is rock, but it's not run of the mill.

When the band adds in the Latin, funk, fusion and jam components, they put forth an most interesting product. The mysterious, compelling sound comes in part from the flute – not a traditional instrument for a rock band – and adds an element of mystique.

The lyrics, penned mostly by lead singer Eric Balfour, sounds as though he's literally bearing his soul in songs like "Progression."

"Slide your Breath" is an incredibly erotic song both lyrically and rhythmically.

The band released "Uptown Music from the Downtown Kids" on Oct. 26, staging its release party in Hawaii.

The response to the music was reportedly outstanding, with a crowd very receptive to the Los Angeles sound.

Balfour is quoted on the band's Web site as saying they "sound like L.A." and it holds true on the album.

"Everyone moves to L.A. to get their career going – there's pretty much every influence you can think of," Roley said.

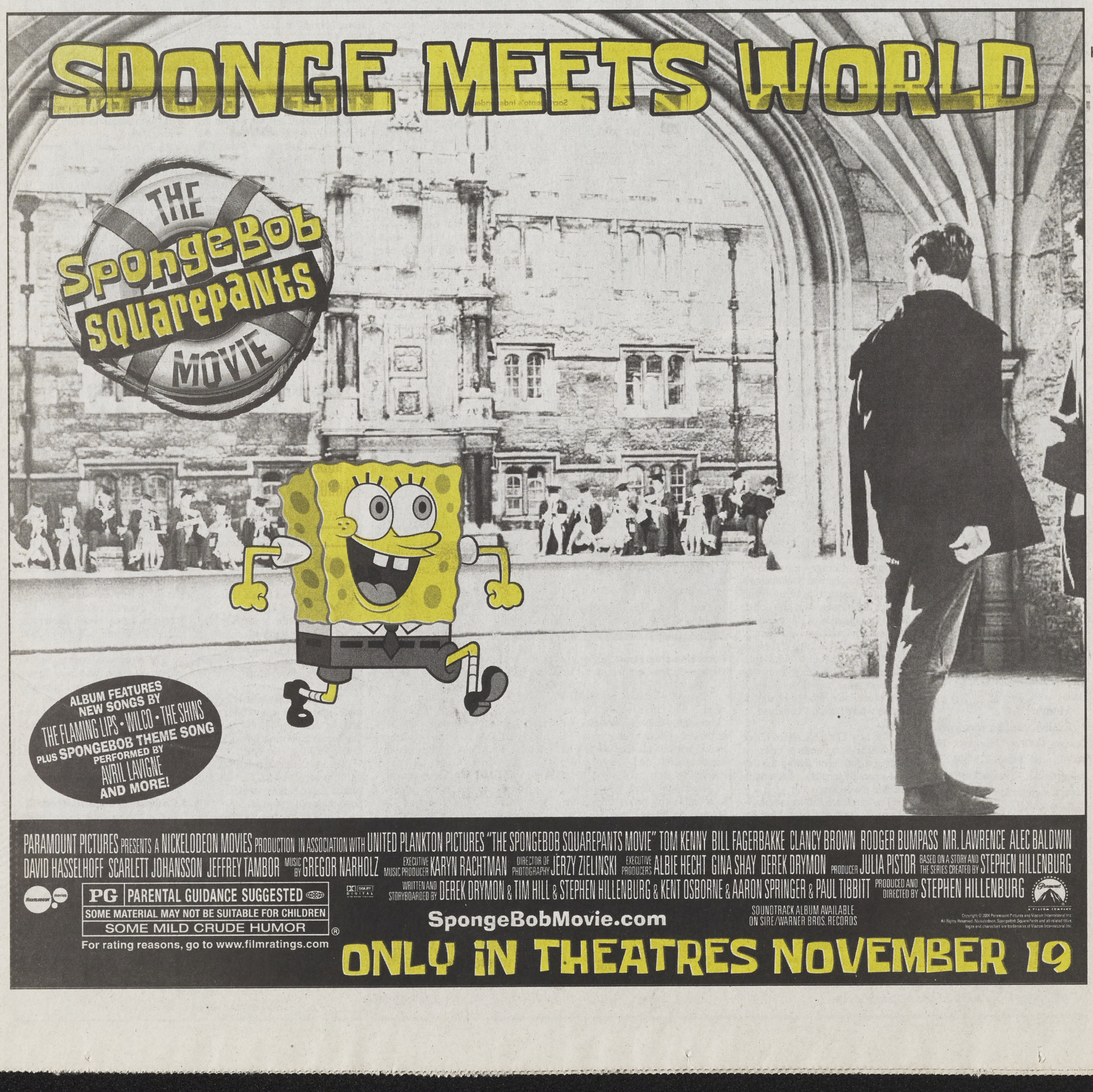
Balfour in particular seems to have a firm grasp on what it means to ooze a certain sound that bleeds the city, judging from his insightful lyrics. The title track of the album incorporates aspects of L.A., New York City and a little bit of earthy, Native American sound to bring a perspective of roots home for listeners.

"It's really combining the worlds," Roley said.

Balfour is probably the most widely known of all the band members for his fame as an actor. From a hippie kid in the movie "Can't Hardly Wait" to a character in the 2003 remake of "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre," Balfour's acting career includes appearing in 20 films and guest-starring numerous

FREDALBA: Page B7

Sex on the Side will return in the next issue of The State Hornet on Dec. 1



'Tanzanian Soliloquy' a powerful experience

ANGIE BLAIR
State Hornet

When Sacramento State staff member and alumna Sharon Kelley planned her first-ever "real" vacation, she didn't go to sandy beaches to work on her tan.

Instead, she traveled to the destitute country of Tanzania.

Kelley went with a group, to hike and photograph the country, so different from her own. What came out of the trip was a change in philosophy for Kelley, and a unique experience that she translated through the art of photography, and brought back to display in the University Union coffee shop as a way to share the epiphany with others.

As a single mother of two, Kelley never had the opportunity to explore many parts of the world. She calls the trip to Tanzania "a present to herself." Making the journey to Tanzania would prove be an inspiring and powerful experience for Kelley.

A staff member in the University Computing and Communication Services, Kelley says that the trip to Tanzania had both "humanitarian and physically challenging elements."

Kelley traveled with a group of six women ranging in age from 23 to 65.

A cook, a medic, a guard and a person to carry the gear accompanied the women.

The group hiked 10-20 miles per day, ending up in a different place every night. In addition to hiking and sight seeing, Kelley used her experience in photography to take some beautifully profound photos, which she titled "Tanzanian Soliloquy," which can be viewed in the coffee house until Nov. 19.

The photos are thought provoking, and shed an interesting light on the culture of a country so different from America.

"The photos were very spur of the moment. ... I wanted to take away those glimpses that hold your eye for a moment and dissipate, leaving a sweet aftertaste of having been privy to something fleeting, but profound and unique," Kelley said.

Kelley was so dedicated to the journey to Tanzania that she even sold some of her own camera equipment to afford gear and supplies to give away on the trip.

To her, the beautiful simplicity in the lifestyles of the Tanzanian people was powerful. The culture juxtaposed with the poverty inspired Kelley's photography to an intense level.

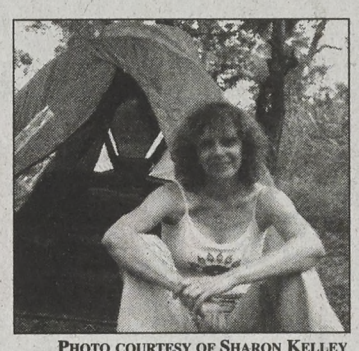


PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARON KELLEY
Sacramento State staff member Sharon Kelley by her tent in Tanzania.

"What I took away with me is vast, but there are two important things – learning to be part of a cohesive whole instead of seeing myself as an individual among the many, and not to be so disposable. To keep and reuse things," Kelley said. "You can't fathom how different life can be until you are someplace else."

Kelley says that among the group of people she traveled with, one person stood out in particular. Emily Lyon, a 23-year-old graduate of Sac State, served as the glue that held the trip together.

"Her friendship and sense of humor staved off the exhaustion, hunger, cold/heat and frustration of the team," Kelley said.

Kelley, who has been involved in photography for about eight years, said that when she retires she plans to work for a human rights organization as a documentarian. To contact Kelley call 278-5975 or e-mail at sjkelley@csus.edu.

FREDALBA: Not just for downtown kids

Continued from B6

times on several successful television shows.

His popularity could be seen as an obstacle for the band, but Roley says aside from annoying scheduling conflicts, that's not the case at all.

"He tries very hard – it's a difficult balancing act, but he's done a pretty good job of making himself a name," Roley said.

Roley said the band is happy and proud of Balfour for his success as an actor, and that being a musician is a whole different part of life for him. Because of the musical explosion in Los Angeles, Roley said that it takes a lot to make a name in the music industry.

He said that sometimes it feels like a duty to go to different shows and pay homage to different bands – even just to see what other people are doing – because there are just so many talented bands in the area.

The guitar and flute combination, with the turntables added in, go a long way to give Fredalba its unique sound, but the band claims it would be nowhere without the backbone or as Callon put it, the "meat and potatoes" of its sound, the rhythm section.

There's Shott on drums and Paul Trutner on bass, creating thumping backbeats mixed with enough funk and fusion to be interesting as well as catchy and danceable, without too much pop lameness.

"Without them, we'd be musically jerking off," Roley said.

Fredalba is still playing live, and if Roley has his way, hitting the road for as much touring as it can do with the scheduling difficulties. Callon said that playing different venues outside L.A. is fulfilling and entertaining, and Roley expressed his intense desire to just tour forever, apparently a dream of his.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FREDALBA.COM

For those interested in the band, its new album or upcoming tour dates, visit www.fredalba.com.

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HALO: Sequel success

Continued from B5

game, some for better, some for worse. It seems harder to kill the enemy, as a player's health recharges to full strength even if the player is almost dead, which tends to be bad for the game.

Games last longer, and the playing field is more level, which can be a plus. Some of the guns from the precursor are much stronger, whereas the others seem to have weakened.

Another exciting feature is on the horizon for "Halo 2," as downloadable levels will soon be available to be added to the multi-player mode.

Multi-player is back and better than ever in "Halo 2." In it, you can pin yourself up against other Master Chiefs and duke it out to see who is the real deal. Eleven levels are available in multi-player, which includes free-for-all and team play. It's no doubt the best aspect of the game because you can play against 15 other people in one level.

Customized levels give you the chance to play "all rockets" or "all swords," which is recommended if you're into the gory violence sort of thing. Using only pistols or sniper rifles also tests who's the ultimate sharpshooter.

Another plus in the long list of positives for "Halo 2" is the ability to play it online with anybody from around the world. The online feature, only enabled with XBOX Live ($50 a year), synchronizes you with players of your caliber, allows you to play the levels you want to play, and keeps all of your stats online.

With bands like Hoobastank and Breaking Benjamin lending a rip-roaring soundtrack to the exciting missions, the game just gets better and better.

More advanced graphics, game play and better, more deadly weapons makes "Halo 2" a success.



ASHLEY BORELLI / STATE HORNET

Doctor Wangel, played by Allen Wilson, tries to convince his wife Ellida, played by Sarah Penney.

'The Lady by the Sea'



ASHLEY BORELLI / STATE HORNET

Arnholm, played by Justin Munoz, speaks with his pupil Bolette, played by Tina Albro, in the Sacramento State Theater Department's production of "The Lady from the Sea" in Shasta Hall on Thursday.

BAND: Local talent developing

Continued from B6

Closer to home, the band frequently plays at the Underground, Boardwalk, Moods and the Capitol Garage.

The band's lead singer, Prescott, said Three Weeks Yesterday tours for "pretty much no money," which makes it hard to find time because the guys must keep their day jobs.

While on tour, Prescott said it would be a toss up between himself, Wheeler and Boyer as to who gets the most attention from girls. He did add, however, "We're all in relationships, so it really doesn't do us any good."

The band members all agreed that their friend Wheeler is most difficult to be on tour with because of his sometimes "frustrating" antics, but it's clear that the guys work well together.

These four from Sacramento are quickly becoming well-known and have been talking to Drive Thru records about a possible full-length album. For now, the band is pushing its latest record and booking every show possible to get its name out and continue honing its craft.

Catch the guys playing this Saturday at Arric's Café on Fair Oaks Boulevard. For more information about Three Weeks Yesterday, visit www.TWYrocks.com.



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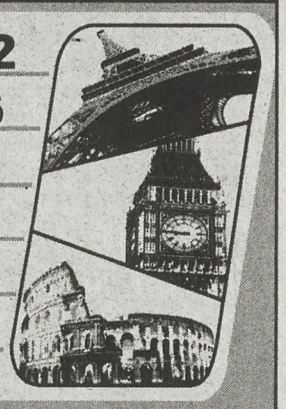
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